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REPORT ON BREZHNEV'S DISARMAMENT REMARKS CITED

LD031415Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "In the Interests of Mankind"]

[Text] Prague, 28 February--The speech by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at the recent session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium generated great response throughout the world, the newspaper RUDE PRAVO, organ of the CPCZ Central Committee, writes. This is indeed understandable. The Soviet leader dwelt on the most important questions of Soviet-American relations, primarily on the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. The resolution of this problem affects not only the Soviet Union and United States but also the whole of mankind and its future.

They have already managed to achieve noticeable progress in drawing up an agreement on this question, the newspaper continues. But, at the same time, pressure has increased from the American "hawks," whom the principle of equal security does not suit. These U.S. forces want to use the Soviet-American talks not for the mutual limitation of strategic arms but to obtain one-sided advantages. Such a position is unrealistic and unacceptable. It is impossible to expect the Soviet Union to act against its own interests, the interests of the socialist community and all peace-loving mankind.

In his speech L.I. Brezhnev correctly pointed out the danger represented by the plans to start production of neutron weapons. People of good will throughout the world have frequently stated that this new, barbaric type of weapon threatens world peace and most of all peace in Europe. Proposals to equip the NATO forces in Europe with neutron weapons have been issued. It is not hard to guess the target of these weapons.

The broad circles of the Czechoslovak public support the proposals contined in L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium session, RUDE PRAVO stresses. The conclusion of a Soviet-American agreement on strategic offensive arms limitation and the adoption of the Soviet proposal to renounce production of neutron weapons would mark an important step on the path of eliminating the danger of new destructive war.

U.S. SENATE SUPPORT FOR NEW SALT AGREEMENT REPORTED

LD031944Y Moscow TASS in English 1901 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 3, TASS--A number of American senators have come out in favour of concluding a new USSR-USA strategic arms limitation agreement. A call for continuing efforts aimed at attaining an effective and comprehensive agreement during the second stage of the Soviet-American talks came from member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Claiborne Pell. He stated that the Soviet Union has observed and observes all the earlier concluded bilateral agreements in the arms limitation sphere in good faith.

Another senator, Dick Clark, stressed that the Soviet-American negotiations are of paramount importance and therefore should be approached with maximum responsibility. He pointed to the need for removing the existing obstacles on this road and condemned, particularly, attempts by certain quarters in the USA to sow doubt and mistrust in regard to the Soviet Union, aimed at hindering the Soviet-American talks. Clark stated that personally, he had long come to the conclusion that all accusations addressed to the USSR by the opponents of Soviet-American accords are ungrounded.

The importance of reaching an effective and comprehensive agreement in the second round of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks was stressed by the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Sparkman. The commission he heads, he said, devoted much time to studying the question of how the existing Soviet-American agreements in the sphere of arms limitation are observed and has never established any instances of violations.

HARRIMAN BELIEVES SALT AGREEMENT WOULD AVERT DISASTER

LD041404Y Moscow TASS in English 1327 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 4, TASS--Noted American political figure, veteran diplomat Averell Harriman declared in support of signing at the earliest date a new Soviet-U.S. agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. Addressing representatives of the American Sister Cities International organization, he stressed that such an agreement would be a most important step towards curbing the arms race and ensuring peace on earth.

He described the task of limiting strategic offensive arms as the main, most important and urgent issue of present-day international politics. In spite of all of their differences, the Soviet Union and the United States are united by the common goal of preventing a devastating nuclear conflict. The main means of achieving it is through limiting and reducing the accumulated nuclear arsenals. The USSR and the USA made a good start for this process by signing several years ago the agreement on some measures in the field of limitation of strategic offensive arms, Averell Harriman said.

A. Harriman said that understanding was reached at the U.S.-Soviet summit meeting in Vladivostok in 1974 on further talks in the field of limitation of strategic arms. A successful completion of the current Soviet-U.S. talks in this field would make it possible to go over to reducing nuclear weapon stockpiles. It is vitally important, as the alternative to it would be the continuation of the arms race and development of ever new types of deadly weapons, the growing danger of a nuclear conflict.

Averell Harriman resolutely rejected the inventions of opponents of a Soviet-American agreement, who are persistently speaking of some alleged "Soviet threat" and "excessive" American "concessions", which as they say, threaten the existence of the United States. Averell Harriman stressed that he knows Leonid Brezhnev and other Soviet leaders himself. They sincerely strive for peace, for ending the arms drive, Averell Harriman emphasised. No other people in the world wants peace more than the Soviet people remembering well the devastations of the past war. The Soviet people, which suffered tremendous human losses in the war--20 million--is not engaged in peaceful creative work. A. Harriman said that he did not doubt the statements by Leonid Brezhnev that his paramount objective is to avoid war, not to permit the destruction of what had been built through persistent work of millions of people.

There is growing understanding in the United States, Averell Harriman went on to say, that a Soviet-American agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms will greatly strengthen international security. This agreement, he stressed, can be opposed only by incurable "paranoiac hawks", who would like to throw the world back to the "cold war" times and nuclear brinkmanship.

The limitation of strategic arms and the policy of detente by no means imply a halt to the ideological struggles between the two systems represented by the Soviet Union and the United States, Averell Harriman stressed. The Russians believe in their system, we--in ours, but all of us shall not admit ideological rivalries and disputes decided through military means. We must learn to compete with each other under the conditions of peace. There is a good possibility for it now. We must do everything in our power so that Soviet-American talks end successfully, he stressed.

DISARMAMENT GROUP RECOMMENDS PROHIBITION OF NEUTRON BOMB

LD022222Y Moscow TASS in English 2130 GMT 2 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, March 2, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Lopatin reports:

An international conference of nongovernmental organizations on disarmament has ended its work at the Geneva Palace of Nations. It was attended by nearly 600 delegates from 78 international and 185 national organizations of 50 countries of the world--representatives of different political, philosophic and socio-economic trends. The conference was one of the broadest world public forums on the eve of the UN General Assembly's special session on disarmament. It has assumed a particular topicality now that the United States and NATO military circles plan to launch neutron weapon production, with its subsequent deployment on the territory of a number of West European countries.

At the concluding plenary session, its participants adopted a message for the coming UN General Assembly's special session in which they recommend adoption of an international convention on prohibition of the production and deployment of such types of weapon as the neutron bomb. They demand that an end be put to qualitative perfection of nuclear weapons, including full termination of nuclear tests by all states, an end to production of nuclear armaments and their gradual reduction up to full elimination from the arsenals of all countries. They demand that the use of such weapons be outlawed.

The program of actions in the sphere of disarmament, set out in the message, comprises also proposals pertaining to prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons with the destruction of the existing stockpiles, prohibition of any new weapons of mass destruction, specifically prohibition of modification of genetics, climate and the environment for military purposes. The participants in the conference demand a substantial cut in huge expenditures for armaments, establishment of nuclear-free zones, dismantling of foreign military bases, disbandment of all military blocs.

The nongovernmental organizations, the document runs, are firmly confident that it is possible to take measures in putting an end to the arms race and in promoting advance to disarmament. These measures are feasible politically, as it has been proved by the accomplishments already available, improvement of the international climate of detente, the signing of the final act in Helsinki, other treaties and agreements.

The participants in the conference expressed satisfaction that for the first time in the UN's history a special session of its General Assembly will be wholly devoted to disarmament. They are confident that the UN General Assembly's special session will promote adoption of new undelayed measures towards disarmament and prohibition of any weapons of mass destruction--both nuclear and other weapons. The accomplishment of this aim could be accelerated by undelayed convocation of a world conference on disarmament, at which all states would conclude a treaty on genuine obligations in the sphere of disarmament.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION--QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS' PROGRAM

LD040400Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

["International Situation--Question and Answers" program introduced by Valeriy Kosovan with Professor Viktor Israelyan, doctor of historical sciences; Aleksandr Druzhinin, political observer of Soviet Television and Radio; Vsevolod Sofinskiy, chief of the Press Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Lev Semeyko, department head of the Institute of the United States and Canada of the USSR Academy of Sciences--live]

Disarmament Negotiations

[Excerpts] [Kosovan] Good day, esteemed comrades. We shall start today's broadcast by answering letters whose authors touch on one of the most acute problems of the day--the limitation of the arms race and disarmament. As you know, the Soviet Union has initiated numerous proposals aimed at curbing the arms race. The Soviet-American strategic offensive arms limitation talks are an important step toward this. At present, talks are also underway between the USSR, the United States and Britain on a complete and universal ban on nuclear weapons tests as well as Soviet-American talks on banning and destroying chemical weapons and on banning the development of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction; the banning of radiological weapons falls under this latter heading. It is intended that these talks result in draft multilateral agreements to be examined at a more extensive forum--the Geneva Disarmament Committee and the UN. Important bilateral and multilateral negotiations--particularly those under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Authority and within the London conference of states and experts in nuclear equipment, materials and technology--are underway for the purpose of reinforcing the nuclear nondissemination system. The problems of reducing armed forces and armaments in central Europe is the focus of a meeting of a group of European states. The Soviet-American meetings to discuss the issue of limiting and reducing military activity in the Indian Ocean should also be mentioned.

Of course, one must not assert that all the negotiations I have listed are of equal importance, or that they are approximately the same distance from their final goal: the achievement of an agreement. Some of them have made quite substantial progress and the sides' positions have moved closer together; others are at the stage of studying the key issues of the proposed agreement. Here a good deal remains to be done. Finally, at some of the negotiations the bulk of the work still lies ahead. Comrades Ilin from Magnitogorsk, Kortin from Ryazanskaya Oblast, Igorev from Novosibirsk and many other comrades have written to ask about the outlook for reaching an understanding on curbing the arms race, the progress of the talks and what must be done to supplement political detente with military detente. We have asked Professor Viktor Leonovich Israelyan, doctor of historical sciences to answer your questions. Please go ahead, Viktor Leonovich:

[Israelyan] First of all, I shall emphasize yet again that the problem of disarmament is exceedingly complicated. After all, it affects the interests of the national security of states. The talks have to examine not just political problems, but also military, scientific, technical and other kinds of problems. So one can understand how difficult it is to reach agreement on disarmament. But obstructions in the disarmament talks arise mainly from the Western countries' refusal to concede just agreements which do not prejudice the national security interests of the other side.

Take, for instance, the Western attitude at the Vienna talks. They are trying to use them to change in their favor the present balance of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. This and this alone explains the fact that, despite the efforts of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries which have made a good number of constructive proposals during these talks, it has unfortunately not yet proved possible to achieve any tangible results in Vienna. The basic condition for success in disarmament negotiations is the presence of a political will on the part of their participants to reach practical accommodations. And if the Western states abandon their attempts to use the disarmament talks to extract unilateral advantages and to prejudice the interests of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, then the number of such agreements could be considerable. No difficulties--real or even more artificial--can be an obstacle to the conclusion of agreement on disarmament issues. The Soviet Union has repeatedly stated that it is ready to reach agreement on any question of the limitation of the arms race and disarmament--to limit, to ban on a reciprocal basis and then to remove from arsenals any type of weapon, especially weapons of mass destruction.

[Kosovan] Viktor Leonovich, many of our correspondents wonder what influence the plans to develop new weapons, including mass destruction weapons, which are being nurtured in the West, have on disarmament negotiations. In particular what is meant is the U.S. plans regarding the neutron bomb.

[Israelyan] These plans have an extremely negative influence. Here there can be no two opinions. Speaking at the Presidium session of the USSR Supreme Soviet on 24 February, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stated that the implementation of the plans to produce neutron weapons and to deploy them in Europe, which are very attractive to the militant circles in the United States, would of course complicate the situation. These plans are justly seen as an intention to start a new round in the arms race. As we know, gambling on a power policy cannot secure peace and international security. History has repeatedly shown that such actions always provoke a counteraction: Each new step in improving modern weapons and in developing new types and systems of mass destruction weapons results in even greater instability and intensifies the danger of war. Very indicative in this regard is the report by the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency; it also contains an admission of the fact that an American deployment of the neutron bomb can only increase the risk of a nuclear war, and that is well understood by the world's public. That is precisely why the actions by fighters for peace in all countries have recently grown in scope. Millions of people from different social strata and with the most varied convictions are saying a firm "no" to the neutron bomb. The champions of the arms race cannot omit this movement from their calculations, extending as it now does to all countries.

[Kosovan] How, Viktor Leonovich, do you see the modern international situation as a whole? Is it accompanied by progress in the disarmament sphere?

[Israelyan] Contemporary international life requires that effective measures be taken in limiting the arms race and disarmament. The climate is now favorable for this; above all it is determined by the fact that all peoples, all countries have a stake in disarmament and by the balance of power in the world arena. The enterprising and consistent line of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries on disarmament issues has created weighty prerequisites for their successful solution.

Testimony to the Soviet Union's active position is borne by the fact that in the disarmament sphere there is probably not a single trend or issue on which the Soviet Union has not made specific and realistic proposals.

The UN Secretariat recently published a document listing the disarmament proposals presented the UN by all states throughout the existence of the UN. This list includes 230 various proposals by UN member-states; of these 80, or more than one-third, were presented by the Soviet Union. Many of the Soviet proposals have already helped in enabling international agreements to be reached. Others are on the negotiating table. Very recently the Soviet Union presented a number of new large-scale proposals. They include the proposal that all states should simultaneously cease the production of nuclear weapons and reduce their nuclear stocks until they are completely eliminated, measures to ward off the threat of nuclear war; a mutual rejection by the Soviet Union and the Western powers of the production of neutron weapons; and measures to secure military detente in Europe.

[Kosovan] Thank you, Viktor Leonovich.

Vietnam-Cambodia Clash

[Kosovan] Let us move on to the next topic: events on the Vietnam-Cambodia border. As you know, comrades, the situation on the border between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Democratic Cambodia has recently become gravely complicated. The constant provocations by Cambodian Armed Forces on Vietnamese territory have led to the devastation of whole regions. Such attacks have taken on such a broad scale that the Vietnamese side has been obliged to undertake actions in reply in order to insure the country's territorial integrity and to defend the population's peaceful labor. It is well-known that the Vietnamese side, showing patience and restraint, has made maximum efforts to solve all problems by peaceful means in the interests of friendship and neighborliness between the two peoples. In its statement on 5 February, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam again advanced specific proposals aimed at the rapid resolution of the border question. The Vietnamese Government called for an immediate halt to all military actions in the border regions and for the withdrawl of both sides' armed forces to a distance of 5 kilometers from the border. The statement also included a proposal that a meeting be organized without delay in Hanoi or in Phnom Penh, or on the border between the two countries, for talks and for the signing of a treaty with a pledge to respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of each side.

Cambodia, however, did not give a positive answer to this proposal, which was permeated with good will. As was noted in a commentary by the Voice of Vietnam radio station, the Cambodian side put forward preliminary conditions which were based on fictitious accusations against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Recently the press of many countries, analyzing the nature of Vietnamese-Cambodian relations and Phnom Penh's political course, notes that the Cambodian authorities' belligerent position contradicts the interests of both the Vietnamese and Khmer peoples and the interests of the cause of peace and progress in Indochina. In connection with this, it is pointed out that this aggressive position by Phnom Penh is supported by external forces which do not like the strengthening of unified Socialist Vietnam and the growth of its influence on the international scene. Socialist Vietnam has to fight for a peaceful settlement of the conflict in a complicated and difficult situation.

However, people of good will throughout the whole world are sure that this struggle will be crowned with success, and that the people of Vietnam and Cambodia will certainly achieve the restoration of relations of fraternal friendship and cooperation. The schemes and plans of those external forces, who are the culprits in the present tension on the Vietnamese-Cambodian border, will undoubtedly be undermined.

History of Palestine

We continue to answer your questions, comrades. We receive many letters whose authors are interested in the problem of the Palestinians and the Palestinian state. Comrades Karaman from Odesskaya Oblast, Garantov from the town of Kamyshin, Zhukov from Donetsk, and Chirkes from Vinnitskaya Oblast ask why an independent Palestinian state does not exist and what, in general, is the history of the partition of Palestine:

There is indeed no Palestinian state on the world political map today. However, the country of Palestine has existed for thousands of years. Before our era, Palestine was populated by various Semitic tribes and peoples including Jews. Beginning in the seventh century, Arabs also appeared in Palestine. For several centuries up to the First World War, Palestine was under Turkish rule. After the First World War, a period of British colonial role began, disguised under the so-called Mandate of the League of Nations. In this period, especially after the Second World War, there was intensive emigration to Palestine by European Jews under the banner of the Zionist movement. In November 1947, after Britain had given up its mandate over Palestine, the UN General Assembly decided to create two states in Palestine. One Arab and one Jewish. At that time there were 1.36 million Arabs and 600,000 Jews living in Palestine. The Jewish state was proclaimed in May 1948, under the name of Israel. But the creation of the Arab state was undermined by the first Arab-Israeli war. During this war, Israel expanded its territory to 21,000 sq km and occupied almost 7,000 sq km which, according to a UN decision, should have been part of the Arab state. The remaining part of the territory of Palestine--a little less than 5,000 sq km--was attached to the Kingdom of Jordan. Almost 20 years later, during the aggressive war of 1967, the Israeli forces seized this territory--the West Bank of the River Jordan--as well. Thus all of Palestine has ended up under Israel's rule.

About 900,000 Palestinians were forced to leave their homes and the majority of them, moreover, were simply driven out by the Israeli Army. Thus there arose the problem of the Palestinian refugees, and an entire people lost their homeland. At the present time, the Arab people of Palestine, who number approximately 3.5 million, are homeless and live in various countries of the Arab east.

Mideast Situation

Our mail today includes many letters whose authors are interested in the Near East situation. What is the aim of U.S. policy in that party of the globe? Your question, comrades, is answered by Aleksandr Nikolayevich Druzhinin, political observer of Soviet Television and Radio. Over to you, Aleksandr Nikolayevich:

[Druzhinin] For several months now we have been witnessing feverish activity by Washington in connection with the situation in one of the world's most disturbed areas--the Near East. Summit meetings occur one after the other. During his trip abroad at the start of this year U.S. President Carter made an unplanned stop in Egypt. A few weeks passed and then Egyptian President as-Sadat arrived in Washington. Hardly had his talks in the American capital ended before a visitor from Israel arrived--Foreign Minister Dayan.

Washington is now preparing for the next act of this diplomatic performance. Israeli Prime Minister Begin will be arriving in the United States during March.

Meanwhile Atherton, the U.S. State Department's high-ranking emissary, is going back and forth in the Near East. His trip is reviving memories of the shuttle diplomacy--of sad repute--of former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, which not only did not help to unravel the Near East knot but drew it even tighter. If one believes official Washington's propaganda, all this activity pursues the noble aim of settling the Near East conflict. An attempt is being made to depict the United States as a mediator, bearing the olive branch of peace to the warring sides. However, even many American observers are at a loss when the question of the end results of this policy arises. In the final analysis which side will Washington take? This question is more and more frequently encountered in the American press. It seems, the Washington POST ironically wrote on one occasion, that the United States is striving to suit Egypt on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and Israel on Tuesday, Thursdays and Saturdays, and then on Sundays to suit both of them. However, to explain American diplomatic maneuvers in the Near East as mere inconsistency would be naive.

The United States knows what it wants. In order to understand its aims, one must turn to those secret springs which motivate American policy is that part of the world. Washington has several interests there. The first is oil. Two-thirds of the known world reserves of 'black gold' are in the Arab countries. Half of all the oil imported by the United States comes from the Arab east. It would seem logical that American attention should be concentrated precisely on the Arab countries. But other U.S. interests in the Near East--political and strategic interests--come into play here, and they lie beyond the bounds of the Arab world--in Israel. I have in front of me an interesting document prepared by one of the staff members of the U.S. President's National Security Council, Professor Quandt. He says outright that the pro-Israel leaning in U.S. policy is becoming more and more considerable. This can be explained by many factors, Quandt writes. There is the similarity between the social and political systems in Israel and the United States. There is also the role of the powerful Zionist circles in the United States, which exert a strong influence on the shaping of Washington's policy. Nevertheless, the professor writes, the United States would never have spent billions of dollars on military and economic aid to Israel solely from a sense of moral obligation. Something more concrete and tangible has been at stake: Israel insures Washington stratetically advantageous positions in the Near East. It is the only reliable American ally in the area. In an extreme situation, Quandt asserts, Israel might even use its military power to defend U.S. interests or to provide America with military bases on its territory.

Here is an answer to the question of whose side the United States supports in the Arab-Israeli conflict and what aim it is pursuing by its present policy in the Near East. Washington is banking on Israel and regards it as its only support in the region. As far as American oil interests are concerned, the ruling classes in the United States believe that they can best be safeguarded by following a policy of splitting Arab unity and setting the Arab states against each other. It is precisely this aim which is served by the U.S. maneuver of supporting As-Sadat's attempt to achieve a separate settlement with Tel Aviv. The tension which the diplomacy of the Egyptian president has caused in the Arab world only plays into the hands of the American policymakers, since it weakens the Arabs and strengthens Israel.

Relying on behind-the-scenes support from Washington, Israel is not rushing to make concessions to Egypt and is stubbornly refusing to do away with its unlawful settlements on Arab soil, to withdraw from all the Arab territories seized during the 1967 war and to resolve the problem of self-determination for the Palestinian people.

As-Sadat's flirtation with Israel has brought him nothing but humiliation, and his trip to Washington--where as-Sadat traveled as though to a modern Mecca to bow down to business, the powerful god of American politics--did not bring him the desired results. Extending his hand for American arms, as-Sadat received only the promised delivery of 50 light American air defense fighters. At the same time the United States announced that Israel would receive 90 of the very latest fighter-bombers with which the American Air Force is equipped.

And so Washington's imperialist policy has only further exacerbated the explosive situation in the Near East. It is blocking the way to a resumption of the work of the Geneva peace conference, and you know it is only at this conference, with the participation of all interested sides--including the legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people--that it is possible to solve the problem of a just Near East settlement. The implementation of American policy leads to a situation in which the Near East will remain a sort of powder keg, ready to explode at any moment. In the light of all these facts, is it not clear how hypocritical are Washington's aspirations to the role of peacemaker in the Near East conflict?

[Kosovan] Thank you, Aleksandr Nikolayevich.

Exchange of Military Observers

[Kosovan] Do Soviet military representatives attend the exercises conducted by the capitalist countries' armies? This is asked by Comrades Mineyev from Gorkovskaya Oblast, Pavlov from Luginy and others.

As you know, ever since the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, an understanding has existed allowing military observers from capitalist countries, including the NATO member-countries, to attend troop exercizes and maneuvers held on the territory of the Warsaw Pact member-countries. Correspondingly, observers from the socialist countries are invited to attend the maneuvers held by the capitalist states. Thus, for instance, military observers from the Soviet Union and Poland attended the Arrow Express NATO manuevers in Denmark, and observers from the USSR, Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia are now attending the Arctic Express NATO maneuvers being held in Trompso.

Horn of Africa

We have received many letters whose authors are interested in the situation in the Horn of Africa. You are answered, comrades, by Vsevolod Nikolayevich Sofinskiy, chief of the Press Department of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Over to you, Vsevolod Nikolayevich:

[Sofinskiy] What is the situation now? Apparently you have in mind the theater of military operations. Here the position is somewhat improved. Events are gradually taking a turn for the better, although the situation remains, as before, complicated.

Having launched their aggression at the end of last July, Somali forces penetrated from 300 to 700 km into Ethiopian territory. This is explainable: Usually an aggressor carefully prepares for war and chooses the moment of attack which is most convenient and suitable for himself. Thus it was in this case as well. The Ethiopian people, who in September 1974 carried out a national democratic revolution which deposed the emperor and his feudal bureaucratic regime, had begun to implement profound social and economic transformations.

The progressive transformations, as usually happens during a revolution, ran into fierce opposition from the feudals and other exploiter elements who had been deprived of privileges by the revolution. An active struggle against the revolutionary regime was begun by a monarchist--a double-dyed monarchist--organization, to so-called Ethiopian Democratic Union. What a name that is--the democratic union. This "democratic union" included all the relatives of the overthrown imperial dynasty, their friends and devotees. A struggle against the revolutionary regime was also begun by another no less reactionary organization, with a similar leftist extremist coloring and also with a good name: the so-called Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party. They launched sabotage and extensive terror against the revolutionary activists. Moreover, the separatist movement in Eritrea intensified. Its aim is to separate this coastal Ethiopian province from the country and to create a new, reactionary Muslim state which would be dependent on its protectors and which is inspired from outside. It was this moment which the Somali rulers and those who were pushing them into this step considered convenient for an attack.

At precisely that moment they decided that Ethiopia was an unprecedentedly convenient target for attack. As a result, revolutionary Ethiopia, which still had not stabilized its internal situation and was being attacked by external enemies, was in a very serious situation. However, more substantial factors than surprise have now come into play. Among these are primarily the spirit and the moral uplift of the people and its army. After all, the Ethiopian people are waging a just and patriotic war and are defending their homeland against the encroachments of the aggressor. And the situation, as I have said already, is beginning to improve. At any rate, the calculation of the lightning rout of Ethiopia has clearly failed. The Somali offensive in the Ogaden was first stopped by the Ethiopian Army and now there has begun--perhaps not particularly quickly, but there has begun--the gradual liberation of the territories seized by the invaders. The Somali troops have been thrown back dozens of kilometers from the lines they seized initially.

This is what concerns the theater of military actions. However, of no less importance now is how the international situation is taking shape around the events in the Horn of Africa.

Having failed in the attempt to break the will of the Ethiopian people by military force, its foes now have unleashed a real psychological propaganda war. Its aim is to present to the world public a completely distorted view of the events which are taking place in the Horn of Africa. If you want, the intention is to stand everything on its head.

President Siad Barre has come out with absurd, fantastically false assertions that the USSR and other socialist countries are supposedly preparing for an invasion of Somalia. He sent via the Arab League--as is known the OAU condemns Somalia's aggression, so Siad Barre resorts to the Arab League--a message to the heads of the Arab states, which was full of slanderous attacks against the countries of the socialist community. Just a few days ago, when speaking at a press conference in Mogadiscio, Siad Barre stated that the Soviet Union's aim is to occupy the Somali towns of Berbera, Hargeisa and other parts of the country. This is being asserted when it is precisely Somali troops which invaded and are now occupying a considerable part of Ethiopian territory.

This automatically brings to mind a picture of a situation in which someone--I do not want to use a more precise word when speaking of the president--shouts louder than anyone else: stop thief!

The Ethiopian press has, with justification, called the slander and assertions made by the Somali leaders a smokescreen. The TASS statement on the situation in the Horn of Africa exposed these fabrications as pure invention. Nevertheless, the fabrications were taken up in the United States and several West European countries. They were supported, of course, by the Maoists in China. All these fabrications, the TASS statement said, are completely groundless and their aim is obvious: to distort the actual state of affairs and to thereby cover the schemes being nurtured by some people in the West for their own interference in the Somali-Ethiopian conflict.

No one is threatening Somalia. The Ethiopian leadership has repeatedly and officially stated that their sole aim is the liberation of their lands; that they certainly do not intend to send their troops into Somali territory; and that Ethiopian troops will not cross the Somali border.

As for the Soviet Union, it comes out, before, for a peaceful settlement to the conflict by means of talks on the basis of mutual respect by the sides, sovereignty, territorial integrity, the inviolability of borders and noninterference in each other's internal affairs. An essential prerequisite for such a settlement must be, of course, the withdrawal of Somali forces from the territory of Ethiopia.

Strategic, Tactical Nuclear Weapons

[Kosovan] Thank you, Vsevolod Nikolayevich. Which weapons are called strategic and which ones are called tactical? We have asked Lev Semenovich Semeyko, department head of the Institute of the United States and Canada of the USSR Academy of Sciences and a candidate of military sciences, to answer this question. If you please, Lev Semenovich:

[Semeyko] The distinction between strategic and tactical nuclear weapons is very substantial. Strategic nuclear weapons are the means for conducting armed struggle which are at the disposal of the highest links controlling a state's armed forces. They are intended to annihilate the enemy's vitally important military-political and economic targets and to implement the basic tasks of nuclear warfare, if it has not been successfully averted. The means for delivering such weapons are intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarine-launched missiles and strategic or long-range bombers. Questions regarding the limitation of precisely these strategic nuclear arms are now at a crucial stage in Soviet-American relations.

Tactical nuclear weapons are weapons located in troop divisions and various formations of armed forces and are intended for use within the bounds of the theater of hostilities. As a rule these weapons are considerably less powerful than strategic ones. The primary means for delivering them are artillery, tactical and operational-tactical missiles with a range of from several dozen kilometers to several hundred kilometers, as well as aircraft employed in the battlefield and at the enemy's immediate rear.

As is well-known, questions regarding the reduction of tactical nuclear weapons are a subject for the Vienna talks on the reduction of arms and armaments in central Europe. At the same time the border between strategic and tactical nuclear weapons is very relative. The fact is that many so-called tactical means of delivery can also carry out strategic tasks.

In particular, a considerable proportion of aircraft and missiles as well as SHAPE carrier-borne aircraft are concentrated in Europe which, although they are called tactical by the Americans, can in practice reach the territory of the Soviet Union and carry out strategic tasks. Thereby they directly affect the interests of the Soviet Union's security. It is a matter of hundreds of delivery systems. It is understandable, therefore, that the Soviet Union resolutely advocates that the question of these tactical nuclear weapons be resolved in such a way that our security is not infringed and that the principle of equality and similar security, agreed on with the United States, be fully observed.

[Kosovan] Thank you, Lev Semenovich.

WFTU PRESIDENT PASTORINO RECEIVES SOVIET AWARD

LD061838Y Moscow TASS in English 1829 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 6, TASS--Enrique Pastorino, president of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) and winner of the Lenin Peace Prize, expressed deep appreciation on the occasion of his decoration with an order of the world's first socialist state--the Soviet Order of Friendship of the Peoples. A decree on the decoration was signed on Friday by the President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Leonid Brezhnev.

Enrique Pastorino, who is 60 today, said in an interview with a TASS correspondent: "I view the award not only as recognition of my modest services, but as high assessment of the activity of the WFTU in strengthening the international trade union movement and developing friendship and cooperation among nations."

The president of the WFTU who arrived in Moscow on March 2 is taking part in events in the USSR held in preparation for the Ninth World Congress of Trade Unions. The trade union forum to be held in April in Prague, he said, will take place amid a sharpening crisis of the whole capitalist system and intensified action by working people and trade unions for their rights. It will serve to further rally the international working class and trade union movement in the struggle for democracy and social progress.

"The efforts exerted by the Soviet Union to strengthen the unity of the world trade union movement can hardly be overestimated," stressed Pastorino. "The genuinely internationalist stand of the Soviet trade unions has earned them the trust and respect of WFTU organizations of the most diverse orientations."

The forthcoming congress will also discuss ways to strengthen the workers' struggle for peace and cooperation and against the arms race, said Enrique Pastorino. The WFTU has recently launched a campaign to protest the intention of the U.S. military-industrial circles to produce the neutron bomb and deploy it in West European countries. "We regard these imperialist plans as a provocation against the peaceful forces and are doing our best to avert a new world war".

The president of the WFTU spoke highly of the new Soviet peace initiatives in the field of disarmament aimed at strengthening detente and called on all governments to support them.

UNCTAD TRADE, DEVELOPMENT SESSION TO OPEN IN GENEVA

LD051438Y Moscow TASS in English 1109 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 5, TASS--TASS economic commentator Sergey Stoklitsky writes: The ninth special session of the Trade and Development Board is to open tomorrow in Geneva at ministerial level within the framework of the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The session is to consider the problem of external debts of the developing countries as well as some other important aspects of restructuring of the system of international economic relations. Life itself put on the agenda the entire complex of these matters. Young independent states up to this day still feel the hard consequences of the 1974-1975 crisis which afflicted the world capitalist economy. The realisation of national plans in many of the young independent states has been put in jeopardy. Industrial production slumped. As UNCTAD experts note, the annual rates of economic growth in a while number of Third World countries were far below the six per cent provided for by the U.N. second development decade.

The external economic positions of emergent countries proved sharply undermined too. In 1976-1977 their aggregate external debt not only failed to diminish but on the contrary grew from 171 billion to 250 billion dollars.

The state monopoly capital of the West bears the main responsibility for the obtaining situation. The sharp reduction in the demand for the export products of the developing countries, the diktat of trans-national corporations, world inflation and instability of currency rates--all these factors predetermined the difficulties of the Third World. In order to pay the previous debts, the emergent countries had to resort again and again to the 'services' of international finance capital, the U.S. one, first of all, and borrow loans on still tougher terms. Thus old debts give rise to new ones.

Aware that the previous attitude in relations with the developing countries, attitude based on an overt diktat does not bring dividends as it used to, the West increasingly often resorts to a flexible manoeuvring tactics. Agreeing in words, it rejects in essence the cardinal solution to the urgent problems of restructuring international economic relations, the external debt problem including.

As for the Soviet Union, it, like the other countries of the socialist community, being not privy to the circumstances which engendered the deep crisis of the international system of capitalist credit, regards with understanding the demands which the developing countries place in this connection upon the developed capitalist states. The main road to the solution of the external debt problem, as of just many other problems of the developing countries, lies through elimination of all forms of diktat and inequality, through the deepening of the process of relaxation of international tensions.

Dollar Decline Unsettling

LD070950Y Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 7, TASS--The sharp drop in the dollar exchange rate has still further aggravated the differences between the parties to international trade talks in Geneva. The head of the American delegation, A. McDonald, acknowledged that the depreciation of the American currency had already begun affecting world prices, which created a threat of further undermining Western trade.

The ninth special session of UNCTAD, the United Nations Council for Trade and Development, now taking place in Geneva with the participation of 92 countries, has the task of reducing trade tariffs and working out general rules for trade in the eighties. According to McDonald, the United States would like to ensure bigger sales of its commodities, especially farm produce, in West European markets. In turn, the other parties to the talks insist on Washington's renouncing trade protectionism through which the United States' administration safeguards the interests of the American monopolies.

UN COMMITTEE SCORES MILITARY AID TO SOUTH AFRICA

LD021108Y Moscow TASS in English 0850 GMT 2 Mar 78 LD

[Text] New York, March 2 TASS--The international community resolutely protests against the speeding up of the arms race by the Pretoria authorities. Military preparations of the South African racialist regime constitute a threat to international peace and security, says a statement of the United Nations Special Committee Against Apartheid in this connection. It says that some Western countries and their monopolies, contrary to the United Nations demands to put an end to cooperation with the racialists in the military sphere, continue building up the military potential of the Republic of South Africa, thus increasing a threat to peace in the south of Africa.

It is pointed out in the statement that Pretoria's military budget rose from 56 million dollars in the 1960-1961 financial year to approximately two billion dollars in the current year. The apartheid regime acquired guided missiles and is now trying to create its own nuclear weapons.

There is no doubt, the statement says, that the purpose of these large-scale military preparations is to preserve the racialist state through the continuation of the policy of terror against a huge mass of unarmed African population, and through staging acts of aggression against independent African countries.

The Committee Against Apartheid urged the international community to frustrate further plans at militarization of the Republic of South Africa through effective implementation of the embargo on deliveries of arms to the Pretoria regime that was introduced by the United Nations Security Council, through complete ending of cooperation with the racialists in the nuclear sphere and halting of all capital investments in the economy of the racialist Republic of South Africa that are used for building up its armed forces. It also demanded that it should be prohibited to send into the south of the continent mercenaries that are recruited in Western countries for combatting the mounting national liberation movement.

UNITED STATES

TITO ARRIVES IN UNITED STATES; TO MEET WITH CARTER

LD070642Y Moscow TASS in English 0530 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 7, TASS--Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito arrived in Washington yesterday. His first conversation with President Carter is to take place in the White House today.

In the opinion of the U.S. press, the two presidents will discuss a wide range of matters including relations between the USA and Yugoslavia, the situation in the Horn of Africa, relations between Western and the developing countries, and other matters.

SOVIET HORN INVOLVEMENT DEFENDED; SALT TIES REJECTED

LD061033Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Mar 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Political observer A. Bovin article: "Unconstructive Approach"]

[Text] In his speech on 24 February at the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium session, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev again stressed that the Soviet Union advocates the speediest completion of the talks on limiting strategic offensive armaments. At the same time, L.I. Brezhnev stated with regret that the path to Soviet-American cooperation "is still blocked by all kinds of obstacles."

In response to this the U.S. State Department has published a special statement. In general outline it reaffirms the United States' intention of concluding a Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty. But then the State Department added: "It is obvious that the character of our general relations also depends on the manifestation of restraint and constructive action in order to help resolve local conflicts such as the conflict in the Horn of Africa. Interference in this region, torn by a tragic conflict, through the further sending of weapons and military personnel, some of whom are participating in the fighting, inevitably expands and intensifies the military operations and raises the general level of tension throughout the world." Paris LE FIGARO dispersed the diplomatic haziness of this phrase: "No progress is possible at the talks on limiting strategic offensive armaments without a relaxation of tension in the Horn of Africa! That is essentially the meaning of the warning which Washington has just issued to the Russians."

Indeed, there is a need for clarity here. There is no "conflict" in general in the Horn of Africa. There is a conflict there between an aggressor and a victim of aggression. And therefore what the West calls "interference" by the Soviet Union is legitimate aid to the victim of aggression--aid which is in complete accordance with elementary ideas of law and justice. This is the crux of the matter, which the West is sidestepping so diligently.

I would recall that the Soviet Union made the greatest possible efforts to dissuade the Somali leaders from embarking on the pernicious path of aggression. But when nationalist feelings prevailed in Mogadiscio, we had no choice: The Soviet Union went to the aid of the victim of aggression. This is called a principled policy. But what name should be given to the policy of those powers which did not raise a finger to prevent the conflict but which are now effectively siding with the aggressor by helping him with weapons and money?

I would also recall that the Soviet Union helped struggling Vietnam for many years. At that time there were innumerable newspaper articles and official statements "exposing" the mercenary motives behind Soviet policy and explaining the "bases" and "bridgeheads" which the USSR was supposedly seeking in Indochina. Just where are these bases and bridgeheads?

We will not speculate on why the State Department needed to distort the real state of affairs. It only remains for us to draw conclusions from the statements which have been cited. In this instance they boil down to the fact that some people would like to make the solution of the chief, most fundamental tasks dependent on a particular local situation--and a local situation which, furthermore, is interpreted in a highly arbitrary fashion. The bankruptcy of this position is self-evident.

U.S. REPORT CITES CONTINUING CIA 'INTERFERENCE' ABROAD

LD071025 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Washington, 4 March TASS--The CIA is continuing its gross interference in the internal affairs of many countries. This is evidenced by the materials contained in the brochure "CIA Secret Operations Against Human Rights," which has been prepared by the National Security Research Center and published here.

The CIA's secret operations abroad are officially approved by President J. Carter's latest instructions on intelligence, the document states. They are all fulfilled by the CIA's secret service--the largest and most influential subdivision of that intelligence department.

The brochure's compilers divide the CIA's subversive actions into two main categories. The first of them includes "comparatively minor, routine" operations conducted under the direct leadership of a CIA agent in a particular country.

The second category is made up of major secret subversive operations directed against a foreign government out of favor with Washington. They include operations to falsify election results, subversive actions against progressive organizations and, finally, measures of direct interference in a country's internal affairs--use of mercenaries, subversive acts, deliveries of weapons to opposition forces. As a rule, these operations are approved by the so-called special coordinating committee. Its chairman is Z. Brzezinski, the President's assistant on national security.

"Secret operations are continuing to this day," the brochure says. "The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities reported in 1975 that they devour 37 percent of the CIA's annual budget. This figure has not changed substantially since then.... And there are no grounds for believing that the number of operations being approved these days has diminished."

U.S. ADMIRAL'S FEAR OF USSR MERCHANT FLEET IS 'FANTASY'

LD061337Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[Article by Yu. Kornilov: "The NATO Admiral Stirs Up Trouble"]

[Text] Wherever the NATO strategists try to detect the mythical "Soviet threat"-- in the center of Europe, in the African deserts--their fabrications burst like soap bubbles! [paragraph continues]

Having suffered a fiasco on the land, the specialists in anti-Soviet fables have shifted their attention to the water. American Admiral I. Kidd, supreme commander, NATO allied armed forces, Atlantic, has been the most successful. It is not surprising: It was Kidd who discovered the "Soviet threat," and not an ordinary one but a "strategic" one, on all seas and oceans simultaneously. What kind of "threat" is this? Apparently, it concerns...the "rapidly growing USSR merchant fleet."

Any sensible person unfamiliar with the subtleties of NATO propaganda will naturally ask the question. What, pray tell, is the "danger" of the development of merchant ships? Logically this course is not evidence of a mythical "threat" to anybody at all: On the contrary, it is evidence of a desire on the part of a country investing funds in the construction of merchant ships to develop commercial contacts with other states and to broaden peaceful, mutually advantageous trade with them.

This is what logic says. But Admiral Kidd has no time for logic! Whatever ocean this bellicose admiral casts his eye upon, he has visions of sea battles everywhere. Since this is the case, then surely it is clear for what purpose the merchant ships--this "naval reserve"--are being used? The admiral complains that this "reserve" is in decline in the West; in the USSR, however.... To listen to the admiral you would think that the Soviet Union's sole reason for constructing a merchant fleet is to be able to use it at "the right moment" in order to transport forces for an "invasion of the West." This is the kind of delirium that results from looking at peaceful merchant ships through NATO binoculars!

Having stimulated his own fantasy, the gallant admiral makes no secret of his reason for stirring up trouble: According to Kidd, immediate measures must be adopted to enhance the Atlantic bloc's naval potential. The fable about the nonexistent "Soviet threat" on the seas and oceans turns out to be another standard appeal for a "stronger NATO."

DOLLAR DEVALUATION INCREASES UNEMPLOYMENT IN WEST

LD021240Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0557 GMT 2 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--It is no longer a secret to anyone that the fall in the rate of the U.S. dollar is a fearful weapon to which the United States is resorting in the struggle against its European and Asian commercial rivals, PRAVDA notes today. The paper comments on the latest fall in the rate for the dollar recorded on the currency markets of Western Europe.

The dollar fever primarily undermines the financial system of competitors, the commentary says. Inasmuch as the currency reserves of these countries consist mainly of U.S. dollars, the banks of the FRG and Japan are forced to buy devalued dollars at a loss.

The paradox is that in supporting the rate for the dollar, its commercial rivals are at the same time undermining their own economic positions, the paper points out. The strengthening rates of the Japanese yen and the deutschmark reduce the competitiveness of Japanese and West German goods on the U.S. market and throughout the dollar zone. For the FRG, where over one-half of shipbuilding and engineering products and one-third of those of the chemical industry are sent abroad, and likewise for Japan, whose industry is strongly oriented toward export, the reduction of the market leads to crisis in industry and increased unemployment.

The dollar devaluation is long drawn-out saga. It is helping to increase inflation and unemployment throughout the capitalist world, PRAVDA stresses.

FIVE PRESIDENTS' PROMISES ON RACIAL EQUALITY UNFULFILLED

LD050728Y Moscow in English to North American 2230 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Valentin Zorin commentary]

[Text] It is worth one's while to compare the statements made by the chief American delegate at the Belgrade conference, Arthur Goldberg, with the recent annual report of the National Urban League, one of the leading black organizations in the United States. The report, we learn from the title, concerns the position of black America. Mr Goldberg's speeches at the Belgrade conference ring with exultation when he speaks of human rights in the United States and blaze with indignation when he refers to human rights in the socialist countries.

The report on the position of black America is totally lacking in emotion. Its authors have none of the oratorical powers of Mr Goldberg. What they do have is facts. Mr Goldberg conceals his lack of facts with rhetoric. The authors of the report have no need for rhetoric. They offer the conclusions of well-known economists, scholars and public figures about a wide range of facts bearing on the condition of black America. The introduction is written by Vernon Jordan, executive director of the National Urban League and a man of standing both inside and outside the United States. He recalls it was was 10 years ago that a government commission issued a report after investigating the reason for the mass actions of the black community that shook America in the '60's. At the time the commission made a number of recommendations to better the lot of black Americans in all fields. Ten years is no small period. The report of the National Urban League tells us what the changing administrations in Washington have done in this time. The recommendations, it says, have largely remained on paper. The condition of most black Americans has not changed.

I have no way of knowing whether a copy of the report was forwarded to Mr Goldberg, but perhaps there was no need. Arthur Goldberg is given to reminding listeners that he was long connected with the labor movement and in fact owes his successful career to the labor unions. We may assume he is in the know about the facts detailed in the National Urban League's report. He probably knows many more facts of the same kind. If this notwithstanding, he has decided to act as a prosecutor who looks for the violation of human rights in distant countries instead of around him in his own country, I must question his understanding of professional ethics and justice. The second-class citizenship of the 25 million black Americans is common knowledge. It is indeed an odd understanding of justice to ignore these violations and look for a mote in the eye of other nations.

President Carter recently made a significant admission in speaking to black newsmen at the White House. He said there was still much to do in the United States to satisfy the legitimate needs of citizens who had too long been deprived of equal job opportunities, equal educational opportunities and equal business opportunities. In short, the President admitted that racial discrimination continues in the United States. This fact alone, the existence of racial discrimination, deprives America of all moral grounds to speak as a champion of human rights.

It may be said, of course, that if the President recognizes the situation to be intolerable, the administration must be determined to put an end to it, and hence it has every justification to defend human rights in other countries. But I would suggest reading the speeches made by earlier President Johnson reported shocking facts about violation of the human rights of black Americans. Lyndon Johnson let the public know he was horrified and would do something at once to right the situation. When Richard Nixon replaced Johnson in the White House he said the same. In fact every United States president since the war has pledged to do just that: right the situation.

If President Carter has as much as repeated this promise instead of reporting progress in eliminating racial discrimination in the United States, why must the world believe the assurance of this 39th President any more than the assurances of the 35th, 36th, 37th or the 38th? But if this time we take the assurances at face value, it might be wiser for the administration to first carry them out and then preach human rights to other nations.

At the same White House news conference, the President was asked what his policy was concerning human rights in the United States since he spoke so frankly about human rights around the world. What did he think about the Wilmington-10, and how did he intend to see that the same was not repeated in the future? The President gave no reply to the question about the administration's policy on the issue of human rights in the United States. He only expressed regret that these rights are violated. As for the case of the Wilmington-10, said this did not come under his jurisdiction: It was strictly the affair of North Carolina. The White House has given its reply many times in recent months, though it is common knowledge that the fighters for civil rights referred to as the Wilmington-10 were sentenced unlawfully. Perhaps some Americans find what the President said convincing, but I'm afraid the rest of the world does not. It's hard to believe the head of state lacks the power to interfere when American laws are flouted.

But let's for a moment accept the arguments. If the administration feels it has no right to interfere in the affairs of North Carolina, why does it assume it has the right to interfere in the affairs of outside nations? On more than one occasion Washington officials have tried to interfere in court cases in the socialist countries without even taking the trouble to make a study of the facts. As long as violations of human rights continue in the United States, Washington will have no moral grounds to claim the role of champion of human rights around the world.

CARTER DECIDES TO USE TAFT-HARTLEY IN MINERS' STRIKE

ID062315Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1930 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, 6 March--TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Yegorov reports: U.S. President J. Carter has decided to implement the antilabor Taft-Hartley law to suppress the strike of 160,000 U.S. miners.

The President announced on television today that he had made the decision after the striking miners had rejected a draft agreement with the employers by an overwhelming majority. This draft agreement was foisted on the United Mine Workers union under pressure from the government, which intervened in talks on the side of the mine owners.

According to the Taft-Hartley law, the government has the right to direct striking workers, through a court order, to return to work for a period of 80 days. During this time the trade union and the employers are obliged to hold talks to settle the conflict.

However, doubts are being expressed here as to whether the government will succeed in breaking the resolve of the miners to carry on the struggle. The strike has given rise to a broad movement of solidarity among working people throughout the country. "The days of slavery have ended," a miner from Virginia told journalists. "No one is going to make us give up the fight."

The anti-trade union Taft-Hartley law, which was passed in 1947 at a time when U.S. reaction was at its height, has been put into effect 34 times since then.

GUS HALL CALLS COAL STRIKE EXAMPLE OF CLASS CONFLICT

LD071244Y Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] New York, March 7, TASS--The general secretary of the Communist Party USA, Gus Hall, held a press conference in which he touched upon topical economic and social problems of the United States. Gus Hall said that most of the illusions that some people had about the coming into office of the Carter administration had not been dispelled. Inflation continues in the country. The high unemployment rate persists. The burden of taxation on ordinary people increases. The military spending for the next financial year is planned in the volume of 126 billion dollars which means its further growth. The federal budget is not balanced. Economic disorders affect the position of the working people. The living standards of the working class are lowering. In January of this year alone, the real incomes of the working people dropped by three percent.

The general secretary of the Communist Party of the United States pointed out in this connection that social conflicts are increasing in the United States, that the class struggle becomes more acute. This is shown convincingly by a national coal strike. The U.S. miners wage the struggle not only against intensification of labour, for introduction of labour safety measures and social welfare. One of their main demands is that of the right to strike against actions of separate coal corporations at separate mines, which imparts a political nature to the miners' action.

It is extremely important that rank-and-file workers by overwhelming majority rejected the terms of the collective agreement which the monopolists sought to impose on them.

The working people in the metallurgical industry, electric engineering, building and other industries are waging the struggle for their vital interests with growing determination. The growth of class consciousness of the worker is ever more important since in no other capitalist country does the monopoly capital and bourgeois state exert so persistent efforts in attempting to conceal the fact of the existence of the class struggle, the fact that the interests of the working class and big business cannot be reconciled.

JOHNSON WITHHELD INFORMATION ON ISRAELI A-BOMB IN 1968

LD061525Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent T. Kolesnichenko dispatch: "An Unforseen Revelation"]

[Text] New York, 2 March--In 1968 the CIA informed former President Johnson that according to American intelligence Israel possessed the atom bomb. [paragraph continues]

In turn Johnson ordered that these [illegible] were to be kept secret and that even the secretaries of state and defense were not to be informed.

How then did this "become known" 10 years later? The New York TIMES newspaper sets out the following version in today's issue: Last week 30 copies of a report by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission were sent to the House of Representatives Interior Affairs Committee. Over 550 pages of this report contained material marked "secret" which should have been removed from the text, and this was indeed done. However, one of these documents--a 14-page statement by Carl Duckett, former head of the CIA Directorate for Science and Technology, to the commission--"slipped by" unnoticed and immediately became open to the press.

This is what Duckett's statement says: In 1968 he familiarized his boss Helms with the information about Israel's possession of the atom bomb. Helms instructed him not to tell anyone about these facts until he had spoken to President Johnson. "Later," Duckett's statement says, "Helms said he had spoken to the President who had ordered: 'Don't tell anyone else about this, including Dean Rusk and Robert McNamara!" (at the time D. Rusk was U.S. secretary of state and R. McNamara was defense secretary).

NEW YORK PROTEST HELD OVER FATE OF BLACK ACTIVIST

LD070940Y Moscow TASS in English 0735 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] New York, March 7, TASS--The TASS correspondent, Aleksey Voronin, reports: A protest demonstration was held on Monday outside the federal court in New York by blacks and whites. Young and old people, all who are concerned over the fate of the negro activist John Harris, whom the Alabama judicial agencies, on the basis of concocted charges, had sentenced to death and whose execution had been scheduled for March tenth.

The demonstration, sponsored by the Harris defence committee and a number of other progressive organizations, was part of the nation-wide campaign of protest against the death sentence passed on Harris.

The TASS correspondent was told by Key Martin, one of the leaders of the Harris defence committee. That the racialist authorities of Alabama were directly contradicting the provisions of the final act of the Helsinki conference, also signed by the American President. The United States administration displays "concern" over civil rights in other countries, but the Harris' case, the fate of champions of civil rights for American negroes, the "Wilmington ten" and other cases show how little the authorities worry over civil rights in their own country.

EXXON CORPORATION ACCUSED OF MANIPULATING PRICES

LD041028Y Moscow TASS in English 0855 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 4, TASS--Exxon, one of the biggest American oil corporations, has in recent years received additional revenues of several hundred million dollars through its unlawfully exceeding the prices of oil products and natural gas fixed by federal legislation. As the U.S. Energy Department said, Exxon earned 145.4 million dollars over the last three years alone through machinations with the prices of condensed natural gas. The corporation received more than 400 million dollars in additional superprofits by manipulating prices.

CHINA

PRC CLAIMS OF SOVIET DISRUPTION IN AFRICA UNTRUE

LD061159Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[Article by Yuriy Tsaplin: "An Unseemly Role"]

[Text] The events in the Horn of Africa are the latest pretext for the appearance of anti-Soviet fabrications and insinuations in Peking. The Maoist press is assiduously repeating fables which claim that the USSR is seeking to "bite off" one African country after another and then "swallow" the entire continent as a whole. The other day, a further "nuance" was added to the arsenal of fictions: NCNA reported that the Soviet Union is "deliberately introducing" elements of "chaos" and "contradictions" in east Africa. For confirmation of this "news," NCNA turns to NATO sources and the versions of the Somali leaders who attacked Ethiopia.

It is well known that the Soviet Union did all it could to prevent an armed conflict between the two African states--Ethiopia and Somalia. But when Somali forces invaded Ethiopian territory, the USSR took the side of the victim and assisted it, at the request of the legal government of Ethiopia. But the Peking slanderers are reluctant to see the truth.

As before, in the Angolan events, the imperialist powers and their accomplices are operating in Africa today on the basis of parallel and, in a number of cases, joint efforts with the Maoists. This is indicated by the development of events in the Horn of Africa. The indisputable fact that the full responsibility for disturbing the peace in this part of the continent rests with the Somali Government, which enjoys the assistance and support of the NATO countries and reactionary Arab regimes, is common knowledge. The Chinese leaders have joined this motley crew. Mogadiscio has received a large consignment of Chinese weapons from Peking. Chinese press organs are shedding tears of regret over the "United States' and the Wests' dodging of responsibility" in connection with the events in the Horn of Africa.

Fewer and fewer people in African countries believe Peking's statements about "sincere friendship" or its verbal declarations of "resolute support" for the struggle against colonialism, racism and apartheid. In an interview in the magazine AFRIQUE-ASIE, the president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, D. Ratsiraka said that as far as the Chinese are concerned the main enemy is the Soviet Union, not American imperialism. As far as we Africans are concerned, however, D. Ratsiraka said, the main enemy is American imperialism, with its South African allies on the continent and the Zionists in the Near East. Thus, our positions are fundamentally different. The Chinese position is groundless.

The peoples are realizing more and more that Peking's policy all over the world, including the African Continent, is determined by its nationalist interests and hegemonic ambitions.

PEKING'S SUPPORT OF AS-SADAT CONTRAVENES ARAB INTERESTS

LD052140Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "As-Sadat's Peace Initiative and Peking"]

[Text] A few days ago NCNA reported quite clearly that People's China fully supports the so-called peace initiative of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. This is not the first time Peking has issued a statement strongly against the interests of the Arab peoples.

Not long ago Hasan at-Tuhami, the Egyptian president's personal envoy and Egyptian deputy prime minister, visited Peking. Immediately upon his arrival in China, Hasan at-Tuhami heard much flattery of his president and his unilateral policy. But the reason for the warm welcome was not concern for the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people, nor was it a demonstration of solidarity in the struggle to regain all occupied Arab territories. What is important to the Chinese leaders, as was evident from the speech given by Hua Kuo-feng at the reception in honor of the Egyptian guest, is the anti-Soviet line of Cairo's policy. The Chinese Government, Hua Kuo-feng said, gave priority to the struggle against hegemonism, by which Peking means striking at friendly Arab-Soviet relations and diminishing Arab-Soviet cooperation.

But what is Peking's attitude toward the liberation of the occupied Arab territories, the most important issue as far as Arabs are concerned? Here, Peking's principles meet with the attitude of the imperialists and Zionists who are driving Cairo onto the path of capitulation in settling issues. This is the only way to judge Hua Kuo-feng's words when he met Hasan at-Tuhami: That the Chinese leaders regard the occupied Arab territories as lost--the word that Hua Kuo-feng used when he expressed support for separate talks between Egypt and Israel.

Evidence of the fact that China's attitude agreed with that of the imperialist and Zionist circles contained in what U.S. Senator Henry Jackson, known to be one of the most active members of the Zionist pressure group in the U.S. Congress, said. On his return home from Peking a few days ago Henry Jackson said that the Chinese and U.S. positions on As-Sadat's separate talks with Israel were close to each other.

But the Arab countries have quite a different attitude toward China's support for the Egyptian-Israeli separate talks. It is significant that Hasan at-Tuhami's visit to China and the outcome of this visit did not meet with a positive reaction in any part of the Arab world except in Egypt. This is quite natural since the Arab countries view Cairo's policy quite differently. While endless banquets were being given in Cairo's honor in Peking, the conference of leaders of Algeria, the Libyan Jamahiriyah, Syria, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organization was taking place in Algiers. The participants adopted a joint political declaration stating that President Anwar as-Sadat was acting within the framework of a U.S.-Zionist plan aimed at dealing a blow to the possibility of establishing a just peace in the Middle East based on complete withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and also insuring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including their right to establish an independent state. The Arab countries attending the Algiers meeting condemned Cairo's hostility toward the Soviet Union, hostility that pleases Peking more than anything else. The Algiers political declaration said that the enemies of the Arabs were doing everything they could to create a quarrel with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and to isolate the Arab nation from its friends and to deprive this nation from support in its struggle for the national aims.

Peking's reaction to the resolutions of the Algiers meeting is reflected in the fact that the Chinese information media did not refer to them at all.

PRC SPOKESMAN CONFIRMS SUPREME SOVIET MESSAGE TO 5TH NPC

For 6 March Rome ANSA report concerning PRC confirmation of knowledge of USSR Supreme Soviet Message to Fifth National People's Congress, see the International Affairs section of the 7 March People's Republic of China DAILY REPORT.

BUDAPEST MEETING RESULTS SUMMED UP BY PONOMAREV

D061645Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[Unattributed report: "In the Interests of Peace and Social Progress"]

[Text] In Budapest a routine conference of secretaries of the Central Committees of communist and workers' parties of socialist countries for international and ideological questions has ended. The PRAVDA correspondent in Budapest asked CPSU delegation head B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and Central Committee secretary of the CPSU, to share his impressions of the results of the conference.

Our delegation, B.N. Ponomarev said, is satisfied with the course and results of the conference. I think it will play a definite role in further developing cooperation between the fraternal countries of socialism in the ideological and political sphere.

The range of questions discussed at the conference can be seen from the communique which was adopted, and has been published in the press. As for the content of the discussion which took place, it touched on the most pressing problems of today.

A central item in the discussion was the question of how to preserve and strengthen peace and avert a nuclear catastrophe. The comrades spoke of the need to be even more active and to strive with greater initiative to achieve our common aims. The strengthening of peace is the first task of each of our countries and all our parties, and we said so clearly in the communique. The CPSU Central Committee headed by L.I. Brezhnev is doing everything possible to resolve this historical task.

All those who spoke at the conference indicated that in order to preserve peace and remove the threat of war it is necessary to be even more persistently and constantly concerned with the strengthening of political detente and to supplement it with military detente,. Here too, on this matter, the parties represented at the meeting expressed their readiness to act more energetically both politically and ideologically in safeguarding our practical activity in favor of detente.

Detente may be deadlocked if we do not strive for an end to the arms race and seek paths to disarmament. At the conference, good, strong arguments against the arms race were cited. This may be said: The parties represented at the Budapest conference are fully determined to bring the truth about the danger of the arms race to the broadest masses and together with other peoples to fight for the colossal resources that it swallows up to be transferred to resolving acute social, economic and other important problems.

All the parties represented at the conference were unanimous that the dissemination of the truth about real socialism, its successes and its superiority over the capitalist system is an important constituent part of the struggle for peace and progress. In the course of the discussion on this point many interesting considerations were voiced. The delegations of the fraternal parties reported on the successes of socialist and communist building in their countries.

The comrades who spoke stressed that the most important role in resolving the aforementioned vital problems of mankind must be played by communists. The class opponent is also aware of this. That is why he is striving in every way to undermine the communist movement, disunite communist parties and weaken their capacity to act cohesively. Imperialism sees this as one of the main ways of damaging detente and undermining the positions of all peace-loving forces.

The parties taking part in the conference expressed their solidarity with the fraternal parties of nonsocialist countries and support for their struggle against imperialism and for peace, the people's security, and socialism. Naturally, the success of this struggle by communists is largely dependent on strengthening their cohesion on a principled Marxist-Leninist, internationalist basis.

Great attention at the meeting was devoted to the problems of the national liberation movement. That is also completely understandable, inasmuch as the movement is going through a very crucial stage in its development. It was a question of intensifying the attention devoted to the processes taking place in the so-called "Third World," in particular in hotbeds of liberation struggle.

Finally, attention was directed to the increased activity of imperialist propaganda against socialism, against the communist movement and against social progress and the cause of peace. Properly speaking, all these are not separate lines in imperialist propaganda but one and the same line, because in our epoch no opposition to peace and progress can fail to be simultaneously anticommunist. And conversely, any anti-communist subversion is detrimental to the cause of peace and progress. That is why the comrades who spoke said the defense of the cause of peace and progress is inseparably linked with the struggle against imperialist ideology and against anticommunism.

The discussion was interesting, pithy and fruitful, B.N. Ponomarev said in conclusion. The conference was well organized. Great credit here belongs to the host party, the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, to which we all express sincere gratitude.

GDR'S STOPH TALKS WITH SOVIET LEADERS, DEPARTS FOR HOME

Kosygin, Stoph Meet

LD061038Y Moscow TASS in English 1019 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 6, TASS--Aleksey Kosygin, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Willi Stoph, member of the Political Bureau of the SUPG Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR, began talks in the Kremlin today.

Willi Stoph arrived in Moscow today for a working visit.

Talks 'Friendly and Cordial'

LD061505Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] A meeting took place today between Kosygin, Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Stoph, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party [SED] of the GDR and chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, who has arrived in Moscow on a short working visit.

Satisfaction at the successful development of fraternal relations between the USSR and the GDR in political and economic fields and at the fruitful cooperation between the two countries both on the bilateral basis and within the CEMA framework was expressed during the talk, which passed off in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

It was noted that the close interaction between the USSR and the GDR on the basis of the treaty of 7 October 1975 was conducive to a successful solution of the tasks of communist and socialist construction set by the 25th CPSU Congress and by the Ninth SED congress.

Attention was devoted to the implementation of accords [dogovorennost] between Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, concerning the completion of a long-term program for specialization and cooperation between the USSR and the GDR, reached in July 1977 during their friendly meeting in the Crimea.

The heads of governments of both countries reviewed some concrete issues connected with the solving of long-term target [tselevaya programma] programs for cooperation between member-countries.

The talk between Kosygin and Stoph confirmed the identity of views of the USSR and GDR Governments concerning the issues under discussion and also the desire to further strengthen and develop the relations of fraternal friendship and fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic.

Brezhnev Receives Guest

LD061732Y Moscow TASS in English 1715 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 6, TASS--Today the general secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev received in the Kremlin Politbureau member of the SUPG CC, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR Willi Stoph, who arrived in this country for a working visit.

Leonid Brezhnev spoke of the political and economic problems being solved by the party at the current stage of development of the Soviet society, about plans aimed at further raising the efficiency of production and quality of work, at raising the people's well-being.

Willi Stoph described the realisation by the people of the GDR of the socio-economic programme adopted by the ninth SUPG congress, about the broad movement launched in the country to prepare for the 30th anniversary of the formation of the GDR.

During the meeting, views were exchanged on questions pertaining to the further deepening of all-round cooperation between the two countries. Outstanding problems of international developments at the present stage were also touched upon.

The meeting, which passed in an atmosphere of traditional friendship and cordiality, reiterated the complete unanimity of the sides' views on all questions discussed.

Stoph Departs USSR

LD061733Y Moscow TASS in English 1713 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 6, TASS--Willi Stoph member of the Political Bureau of the SUPG Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR, left here for home today after a working visit to Moscow.

Willi Stoph had talks with general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Leonid Brezhnev, and member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Aleksey Kosygin.

At Vnukovo Airport Willi Stoph was seen off by Aleksey Kosygin and other officials.

BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN SEND GREETINGS TO BULGARIAN LEADERS

LD061455Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 March 78 p 1 LD

[Text] To Comrade Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council:

To Comrade Tanko Todorov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers,

Dear Comrades!

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the USSR Council of Ministers and the entire Soviet people we convey our sincerest congratulations to you and in your persons of BCP Central Committee, the State Council and Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and all the citizens of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in connection with a notable date, the centenary of Bulgaria's liberation from the Ottoman yoke.

In marking the glorious anniversary of this historic event Soviet people are proud of the participation of Russia's sons in the heroic struggle of the Bulgarian people for its independence. In the joint legendary fighting of those faroff years was born Bulgaria's freedom and the traditional friendship and militant alliance of the Bulgarians with the peoples of Russia grew in strength.

The solidarity, mutual respect and trust of our peoples acquired qualitatively new content in the modern era when, led by their tried vanguard the BCP, the working people of Bulgaria carried out a socialist revolution and, developing all-round cooperation with the peoples of the Soviet Union and other fraternal states, achieved outstanding successes in the construction of a new society.

In the course of the steadfast deepening of Soviet-Bulgarian relations the line of the CPSU and the BCP is being successfully realized, which aims at the consistent rapprochement of our countries and peoples, in full keeping with the national and international interests of the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Bulgaria. It can be said with confidence that the coming years will bear still richer fruits of Soviet-Bulgarian friendship, which has served and serves well the cause of strengthening the unity of socialist community and the cause of world socialism.

In congratulating the fraternal Bulgarian people on the centenary of Bulgaria's liberation, we send you, dear friends, and all the citizens of the People's Republic of Bulgaria cordial greetings and wishes for further successes in the creation of an advanced socialist society and in our common struggle for the ideals of peace, democracy, freedom, national independence and social progress.

[Signed] L. Brezhnev, A. Kosygin

ARTICLE ON FRENCH ELECTIONS DISCUSSES LEFT PLATFORMS

LD061443Y Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian no. 10 signed to press 2 Mar 78 pp 7-8 LD

[Yu. Nikolayev article: "France at the Hour of a Decisive Choice"]

[Excerpt] In June 1972 the French Communist Party [PCF] and the Socialist Party [PS] created the Union of the Left on the basis of the draft Joint Government Program which they had elaborated. The Left Radicals Movement which had broken away from the Radical and Radical-Socialist Party soon joined this union. France's biggest trade union center--the General Confederation of Labor--also supported this union.

The creation of this union, which has been a most important factor in France's domestic political life in the period since 1972, is to a considerable extent to the PCF's credit. Since 1959, considering that the split in the working people benefited the class enemies, it had to struggle for unity of action by the leftwing forces. As PCF Secretary General Georges Marchais has noted, the PCF "the day after the serious defeat of 1958 immediately made persistent efforts at the suggestion of Maurice Thorez to help the great mass of workers, socialists, working people and democrats to oppose the monopolies' power...."

The Joint Program defined the aims of the future democratic government in the social and economic spheres in the event of victory by the Union of the Left. It listed the measures which this government was to take to broaden democratic freedoms and democratize the existing state institutions.

The Joint Program also defined the basic lines of foreign policy which the Union of the Left government would pursue if its member parties won in the elections.

Since then the ideas and demands enshrined in this document have made great headway among the French working peoples' masses. The Joint Program has been the basis of the Union of the Left's activity. It is on precisely this basis that the leftwing parties have operated in the political and economic fighting which has developed in France in these years, including during the presidential election campaign in 1974 and the parliamentary, cantonal and municipal elections held in 1973, 1976 and 1977. The past elections have testified that the leftwing parties are making headway on the basis of the Joint Program. Last spring the PCF proposed to the PS and the Left Radicals Movement that they hold talks in order to clarify the Joint Program and make appropriate changes and amendments which would accord with the requirements of the present stage.

Such talks were held last spring and summer. They were not successful. The leftwing parties failed to agree on a number of issues. The talks on updating the Joint Program were broken off 23 September 1977. However, in February the PS and the Left Radicals created a joint standing commission to coordinate their election campaign. As a result of the rift which has occurred, the leftwing forces will operate separately at least in the first round of the upcoming parliamentary elections.

At the present moment each of the Union of the Left parties is putting forward its own version of the updated Joint Government Program. The PCF has put forward a version containing a complex of specific measures to restrict the dominance of big capital in the economic, social and political spheres, for nationalization, to raise the population's living standards and employment, to democratize life in the country and to insure France's independence.

The PS is also putting forward proposals toward implementing a number of economic measures and insuring appropriate material means for them. These proposals are less radical in their character and extent than the Communist Party's. In a number of instances they are hedged with various provisos which may in the future create loopholes for not fulfilling the outlined measures or for postponing for a long time, their implementation.

The Union of the Left parties have not been able to agree formally on a single version of the draft joint program of the future democratic government which would be formed in the event of a leftwing victory in the elections. Nevertheless, they are still organizing their election work on the basis of the slogan of the struggle for the implementation of the Joint Government Program. The working people's desire for unity, which made it possible to sign the Joint Government Program in 1972 and which has transformed this document into a symbol of unity of action in the last few years, is very great. It is now impossible to disregard this document. It is characteristic that the government majority parties are also concentrating the fire of their criticism on this document.

Until recently foreign policy issues occupied a subordinate place in the election campaign. It is only now that both the government majority parties and the leftwing opposition parties have begun to speak out on these problems.

Broad Support for the Detente Policy

For the last 10-12 years France has pursued an independent foreign policy line in the international arena. It supports international detente and the principle of peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems and develops relations of cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. At the same time France's positions in the international arena are not always consistent on everything.

In the government camp only the Rally for the Republic [RPR] program pays significant attention to foreign policy problems. Stress is laid on the necessity of continuing the policy of national independence pursued by General de Gaulle. One of the most important elements of this policy, the RPR program points out, must be harmony and cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other European socialist countries. The RPR opposes "any interference in others' internal affairs and regards the Helsinki principles as the basis for firmer security in Europe." This program puts forward the idea of creating a confederation of West European states. While recognizing the divergences between the economic interests of West Europe and the United States, the RPR program at the same time stresses their membership of the same politico-economic system.

The Republican Party program also stresses adherence to the detente policy and points out that NATO no longer meets the demands of the time. The Republicans advocate the expansion of the Common Market through the admission of the Mediterranean candidate countries and the future transformation of this community into a confederation. European community problems occupy the bulk of the foreign policy section of the Social Democratic Center election platform.

As far as the Union of the Left parties are concerned, they advocate the implementation of the provisions defined in the 1972 Joint Program. Thus the PCF is continuing the line which was elaborated in 1963 and 1967 according to which France's participation in the North Atlantic alliance and the Common Market presents no obstacle to communists cooperation with the other leftwing parties, including in a democratic government.

The PCF advocates that France "speak with its own voice at international talks and meetings," join in the disarmament talks and conclude nonaggression treaties with all states which want this, including the Soviet Union, and also subscribe to the agreement between the USSR and the United States on preventing nuclear war and join in the talks being held between them on the limitation of strategic armaments.

It should be noted that the PS position in the sphere of disarmament and so-called "European building" and on the issue of relations with the "Third World" countries is not identical to the PCF position. The policy of supporting the U.S. line pursued for many years in the past and also the party's membership of the socialist international, whose line is not always friendly toward the socialist countries and which opposes united action with the communists, have an effect. Louis Baillot, member of the PCF Central Committee, has noted that, in order to overcome the essential differences between the two parties in their analyses of foreign policy problems and the concepts of national defense, it is necessary for these two trends in the PS policy to constitute "an integral part of a genuine policy of peace and disarmament and to be based on respect for national sovereignty and independence."

In connection with the way in which international issues are being raised during the election campaign in France, it can be noted that no remotely serious political party opposes the detente policy although, of course, not all political forces in that country approve this line. It is characteristic that the anti-Sovietists have been unable, despite all their efforts, to unleash anti-Soviet hysteria, as sometimes happened in the past. The experience of the last few years has shown in practice that the development of Soviet-French relations of cooperation on a basis of mutual respect and noninterference in one another's internal affairs agrees not only with the interests of the two states but also the cause of peace in Europe and throughout the world and meets the requirements of the time.

The upcoming parliamentary elections in France are naturally attracting the attention of the broad international public. This is understandable: The outcome of the National Assembly elections is of importance not only for the situation inside the country. It will also exert a definite influence on France's foreign policy.

Foreign Interference

The activity displayed by the West German Social Democrats in this connection is striking. In addition to the meeting between French President V. Giscard d'Estaing and FRG Chancellor H. Schmidt, a meeting has been held between the chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany W. Brandt and PS First Secretary F. Mitterand. According to the press, not only certain theoretical questions but also certain specific questions regarding relations between the two countries were discussed during this meeting. Stating the unity of their views on many issues, both leaders signed a document entitled "Basic Points of the Position of Democratic Socialism." In it they advocated "better organization of the public sector," definite planning and "safeguarding of the right to work." They declared that they advocate the development of relations with the "Third World" countries and the expansion of the Common Market through the admission of Greece, Spain and Portugal. At the press conference after this meeting W. Brandt declared that "the future of Europe depends on the degree of cooperation beween France and West Germany." In this connection L'HUMANITE has noted that the meeting and the documents adopted as a result of it "take the PS still further away from the joint program."

As the Soviet press has already noted, U.S. interference in the course of the election campaign in France has aroused the indignation of French public opinion. Characterizing J. Carter's visit to Paris at the beginning of this year, the foreign press noted that the American President essentially joined in the French parliamentary election campaign by letting French voters know what election result Washington expects from them and also by attempting to influence the situation within the Union of the Left.

In pondering the period which France is entering serious commentators point out the importance of the post of president in the state system which took shape in that country in 1958-1962.

According to the Constitution now in force, the president, who is elected by universal suffrage for a 6-year term, has considerable powers. He monitors observance of the Constitution, insures the normal functioning of state organs through his arbitration and can dissolve the National Assembly after consultations with the prime minister and the chairmen of the houses of parliament. According to article 16, the president of the republic can introduce a state of emergency in the country if necessary.

Present French President V. Giscard d'Estaing is not standing aloof from the current election campaign. Speaking 27 January in the small town of Verdun-sur-le-Doubs in Burgundy, he unambiguously stated his support for the present government majority.

Taking into account the acute struggle which has developed in France, commentators predict that whatever the outcome of the election, the majority in the National Assembly will be small. This can hardly contribute to insuring political stability. That is why, as prominent scientist and journalist Maurice Duverger has noted, in the next few years any government in France will inevitably come up against "a number of problems which it will have to solve."

ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN IN SWEDEN DAMAGES DETENTE

LD061745Y Moscow TASS in English 1702 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 6, TASS--Political commentator Yuriy Kornilov writes:

A noisy propaganda campaign is continuing in Sweden concerning the "chance discovery" in the Baltic of six Soviet submarines armed with nuclear weapons. A number of Swedish propaganda organs and also some officials state their "alarm" over the matter, some newspapers are circulating absurd concoctions about "dangerous Soviet plans" in the Baltic, etc. This hue and cry has been taken up by definite circles in some neighbouring Scandinavian countries. For instance, in Denmark, the Danish newspaper JYLLANDS-POSTEN went so far as to allege that Soviet submarines in the Baltic "are a threat to the cause of peace".

All this noise is totally groundless.

First of all concerning the "sudden appearance" of Soviet submarines in the Baltic. True, these submarines are stationed in the Baltic, but they did not appear there "unexpectedly" and there was no need to "discover" them because they sailed through the big Baltic Strait absolutely openly, on the surface and, moreover, two years ago. Throughout this time this fact failed to attract anyone's attention, but now attempts are being made to turn it almost into a sensation. Why? For what reason?

As is known, the waters of the Baltic Sea wash the borders of the USSR and it is quite natural that Soviet naval ships, including submarines, are stationed in these waters. This does not contradict either the regime of the Baltic Sea or existing norms of international law. It is also well known that the Soviet Navy does not threaten anyone. Some not very scrupulous organs of the Swedish press try to scare philistines with the "danger" allegedly emanating from the nuclear weapons with which the Soviet submarines are equipped. But why do these very press organs keep silent about the real and not mythical dangers presented, for instance, by the accumulation of American nuclear warheads in NATO troops in the FRG, that is in direct proximity of Swedish borders? Why do they not raise a voice of protest against the Pentagon's plans to deploy on West German territory such a barbaric weapon of mass annihilation as the neutron bomb?

The instigators of the noisy campaign in Sweden and some other Scandinavian countries, a noisy campaign with a very definite directedness, intensively use the thesis that the Soviet Union, allegedly, pays lip service to turning the Baltic Sea into a sea of peace but in reality is not working in that direction. But for whom is this false thesis intended? It is known that the USSR has come out and continues to come out for the realisation of both the Polish proposal to declare the Baltic Sea a sea of peace and the Finnish proposal that the north of Europe be declared a nuclear-free zone. These positive initiatives have not yet been implemented solely because of resistance by definite Western circles linked with NATO. But since other countries continue to use the Baltic for the deployment of their naval forces, why then should the Soviet Union's similar right be put in question?

The "sudden" discovery of Soviet submarines in the Baltic Sea is a pretext. The matter is that some people in the West, including Sweden, are trying, and obviously not without outside prompting, to find at all cost some pretext to raise a clamour about the non-existent "Soviet menace," to aggravate tension and whitewash the actions of those forces that would like to turn Western Europe into a testing range for neutron weapons. What aims does all this serve? In any case not the aims of a good development of Swedish-Soviet relations and of consolidating detente in the north of the European Continent.

SCHMIDT RENOUNCES NEUTRON BOMB, ACKNOWLEDGES U.S. ROLE

LD062046Y Moscow TASS in English 2020 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, March 6, TASS--Speaking in Hamburg, the FRG chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, touched, among other things, on the question of the neutron weapon.

We have renounced the production and possession of nuclear weapons, he said. We do not take part in decisions on the production of this weapon and do not intend to in the future.

At the same time Helmut Schmidt stressed that the Federal Republic of Germany as a NATO member "relies on the leading nuclear power in the alliance (?the USA) to ensure for us the necessary protection and will proceed for this in making its own decisions".

On the other hand, the chancellor went on to say, the questions of including new types of weapons in the NATO military potential are regularly discussed within its framework.

In such cases the requirements of the alliance's security are regularly reviewed as well as the opportunities for reaching progress at arms control negotiations.

Helmut Schmidt said also that the FRG "was actively in favour of arms control, arms limitation and of disarmament".

BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT, FRG CHANCELLOR START TALKS IN BONN

LD061506Y Moscow TASS in English 1429 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, March 4, TASS--Brazil-West Germany negotiations opened here today. Taking part in the negotiations are President of Brazil Ernesto Geisel, FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and other leaders.

As is officially reported, the negotiations are centered on Brazil's relations with the EEC member states and also problems of economic, industrial and technological cooperation between the two countries.

FRG SELLS SUBMARINES, VIOLATES INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT

LD012220Y Moscow TASS in English 2108 GMT 1 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, March 1, TASS--Speaking today at a press conference in Bonn, the official government spokesman said that the Federal Council for Security sanctioned the delivery to Iran of six submarines, which are to be built by West German yards. He noted also that this decision was preceded by the visit to Iran of a delegation of the FRG Defence Ministry, which studied the "wishes of the Iranian Naval Forces" concerning deliveries of military equipment from the FRG.

Local commentators believe that this proves the fact that the West German military-industrial complex is becoming ever more active as a supplier of the latest types of weapons not only to the Bundeswher but also to the armed forces of other countries. And what is more, not only within the frameworks of NATO.

It became known a short while ago that the FRG has delivered submarines to the naval forces of Argentina. The press noted in this connection that several major mechanical-engineering and ship-building concerns are using these deliveries to circumvent the international agreements, which prohibit the FRG to produce definite types and classes of arms and military equipment.

Judging by the reports that appeared recently in the newspapers, the deal with Iran is not limited to the construction of a series of submarines, as pointed out by the Frankfurther RUNDSHCAU, we have here "the biggest foreign military order" concluded since the establishment of the West German state. In accordance with this order several dozens of warships are to be built by the yards in Emden, Bremen, Hamburg and Kiel, including missile and torpedo boats. The West German side will also train Iranian naval personnel.

GROWING WAVE OF STRIKES THROUGHOUT FRG NOTED

LD070958Y Moscow TASS in English 0932 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, March 7, TASS--TASS correspondent Anatoliy Typuayev reports:

The workers of the engineering and metallurgical industries of north Rhine-Westphalia and north Wuerttemberg-North Baden today began polling on the question of a strike in support of their demands for higher pay and better working conditions. Almost 1.1 million workers will take part in this original referendum which will last two days.

It is being held after the owners of engineering and metallurgical companies rejected the demand of the metal workers' union that new tariff contracts for 1978 only partially make up for the losses which the workers incur as a result of the continuing rise in prices and rent. Trade unions also come out against mass dismissals at metallurgical-industry enterprises.

Polling is taking place against the background of the aggravation of relations between trade unions and employers. In recent days representatives of companies came forward with open threats to the workers. Yesterday the workers of one of Gelsenkirchen plants returned after a protest demonstration to their enterprise and found the gate closed. The management of the plant, seeking to intimidate the metal workers, resorted to a lockout, declaring all the workers dismissed.

Token strikes involving tens of thousands of workers took place lately in Duesseldorf, Hamburg, Hannover, Dortmund, Stuttgart, and a number of other cities.

SOVIET MINING COMPANY ON SVALBARD VIEWS REGULATIONS

LD031317 [Editorial Report LD] On 27-28 February two representatives of the Soviet Arktikugol Company, which mines coal on Svalbard, attended talks at the Norwegian Environment Ministry in Oslo. Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 28 February reports on page 56 that the talks centered on the new regulations for hunting and fishing, against which the Arktikugol company was protesting since, in its opinion, these "violate the rights which the Soviet Union enjoys in accordance with the Svalbard threat." The Soviet company is the "only non-Norwegian company pursuing industrial activity on the archipelago, and that is why the Russians have been invited to state their opinion on the regulations."

According to Bjorn Hansen's report on page 17 of Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET of 1 March, the Russians "expressed great satisfaction with the actual audience arrangement and with the fact that they were allowed to express their views to the Norwegian authorities." Assistant Under Secretary Gunnar Germeten from the Environment Ministry told Hansen that "there was no question" of these talks being "negotiations."

ANNIVERSARY OF PORTUGUESE CP REPORTED

LD060800Y Moscow TASS in English 0744 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Lisbon, March 6, TASS--It is 57 years today since the establishment of the Portuguese Communist Party--the glorious vanguard of the working class and all the working people of Portugal. It is with its direct participation that far-reaching democratic transformations have been carried out in the country--the agrarian reform and nationalisation, workers' control has been established over enterprises and a progressive constitution adopted. In spite of the wide anti-communist campaign launched by the reactionary forces the influence and prestige of the Portuguese Communist Party are steadily growing.

YASIR 'ARAFAT ARRIVES IN MOSCOW 6 MARCH

LD061831Y Moscow TASS in English 1822 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 6, TASS--A delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) headed by the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, Yasir 'Arafat, arrived here today.

[Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1900 GMT 6 March said the delegation was welcomed at Sheremetyevo Airport by Zagladin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee; the head of the PLO legation in the Soviet Union, Muhammad ash-Sha'ir; and other officials.]

Arrival Statement

LD062327Y Moscow in Arabic to North Africa 2100 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Statement by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, on arrival at Moscow Sheremetyevo Airport on 6 March--recorded]

[Text] Naturally we consider our visit to our friends, particularly during the delicate, crucial, fateful stage being experienced by our Arab region, extremely important. We have come here to hold consultations and discussions with our friends, the Soviet leaders, at various levels in the interest of our common destiny, common objective and common struggle.

We stress here the unswerving, firm position adopted by the Soviet leadership, the Soviet party and the Soviet people to the Arab people in general and to our Palestinian people and the struggle of our Palestinian people in particular.

On this occasion I thank the great Soviet people, the party of the great Soviet people and the leadership of the great Soviet people, particularly the friend of our people--Comrade Brezhnev.

Importance of Visit

LD062106Y Moscow in Arabic to North Africa 1830 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization--PLO--has arrived in Moscow.

This is not the first visit the Palestinian leader has paid to the Soviet Union. During his visit to Moscow last April, he held important talks with Leonid Brezhnev.

Soviet-Palestinian relations are characterized by friendship and understanding. In the opinion of Yasir 'Arafat this is natural and logical.

In one of his interviews on Moscow Radio he said: The Soviet Union is the most sincere, most loyal ally of the Palestinian people in their struggle to retrieve their national, legitimate rights, which have been usurped by Zionism and imperialism. Therefore we express to the friendly Soviet Union and to its great people and leaders many thanks and much gratitude. Soviet support of the just cause of the Palestinian people consolidates the positions of the PLO in the struggle against the capitulatory schemes of the so-called settlement in the Middle East.

These schemes are chiefly aimed at striking at the struggle of the Palestinian resistance movement to retrieve the rights of its people, and excluding the Palestinian issue from a settlement in the Middle East, and consequently burying the question of securing the rights of all 3 million Palestinian people. These schemes are meeting strong opposition from all progressive forces in the Arab world and from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

Hence the special importance of the visit of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the PLO, to the Soviet Union.

MOROCCAN PRIME MINISTER TO VISIT USSR IN MARCH

ID062308Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2300 GMT 6 Mar 78 ID

[Text] Moscow, 7 March--In accordance with an agreement that has been reached Moroccan Prime Minister Ahmed Osman will come to the Soviet Union on a working visit in the first half of March, it is officialy reported here.

CONDITIONS FOR DETENTE SPREADING TO MIDEAST LISTED

ID062109Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 6 Mar 78 ID

[Unattributed commentary]

[Summary] The work of the 25th CPSU Congress was concluded in Moscow 2 years ago. The congress analyzed the situation and pointed out that detente has replaced the cold war as a result of a change in the balance of power in the international field, thanks to the active struggle of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and all the progressive forces for the sake of peace and security of peoples.

The Soviet-Syrian joint statement issued at the end of President as-Asad's visit to Moscow stated that the two sides expressed their mutual preparedness to exert active efforts with a view to deepening the process of detente and firmly support the idea of spreading detente to all parts of the world.

"What are the conditions under which detente could be spread in the Middle East? They are above all conditions for removing the dangerous hotbed of war which has arisen as a result of Israeli aggression and the occupation of vast Arab territories and the violation of the rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

"The 25th congress pointed out that the extinction of the hotbed of war in the Middle East is possible through the efforts of the countries of that region and all states which cherish peace. Therefore the total withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967 must be achieved. The acknowledgement of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including their right to set up their own independent state and securing the right to independent existence and the security of all states in this part of the world, must also be established.

"There is then a road to the establishment of lasting peace in the Middle East and to the spreading of detente there. But it goes without saying that this road is not through the capitulatory policy of the separate deals with Israel. Moreover it is not through the arms race that the United States brought to a new phase last month by its decision to sell warplanes to Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. The process of detente and securing people's security do not conform with the arms race which has turned the Middle East into a powder keg.

Moreover, weapons, in the hands of the aggressors, cannot possibly serve the cause of peace but increase the danger of a new aggressive war. The road to peace and detente in the Middle East is through intensifying the struggle by Arab peoples against imperialism and strengthening the ranks of progressive Arab countries and consolidating their alliance with the socialist countries. Only in this way will it be possible to compel the aggressor and his protectors, the imperialists, to recognize the legitimate interests of the Arab peoples and to establish a genuine peace in this region."

At the 25th congress, Brezhnev said we are prepared to discuss a solution to an issue such as the halting of the arms race in that region, but only by totally linking it with the general settlement in the Middle East. The CPSU congresss showed the road to genuine peace in the Middle East and detente in that region.

ANNIVERSARY ITEMS NOTE FRIENDLY USSR-SYRIA TIES

Syrian Revolution

LD061736Y Moscow TASS in English 1622 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 6, TASS--The Soviet people sincerely rejoices at Syria's success in developing her national economy, education, in consolidating the anti-imperialist home front, it was stated here by Yevgeniy Kondratkov, vice president of the USSR-Syria Society, minister of the Russian Federation. He gave an interview to TASS on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the Syrian revolution that falls due on Wednesday.

Friendly ties between the USSR and Syria are steadily developing and deepening in the political, party and economic fields on the basis of principles of equality, mutual (?respect) independence and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. Leonid Brezhnev noted that Soviet people and Syrians equally treasure the great cause of freedom and independence of the peoples. Both countries come out for lasting peace, for liquidating the hotbeds of war and imperialist aggression, for putting and end to all vestiges of colonialism.

Today the views of our countries on the main problems of our time largely coincide, Kondratkov stressed. It is noted in the joint Soviet-Syrian communique on the results of the February visit to the USSR by the general secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party, President of Syria Hafiz al-Asad that the Soviet Union and Syria regard the struggle to strengthen universal peace and security of the peoples, for general and complete disarmament, for international security as the main direction of their foreign policy activity.

We strongly condemn the capitulatory actions of the Egyptian leadership, which inflict serious damange to the interests of the Arab peoples, because they are directed against the attainment of a lasting peace in the Middle East, it was stated by the vice president of the Soviet society. It is necessary to strive for the implementation of the inalienable rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including its right to self determination and creation of its own independent state.

Relations between the Soviet Union and Syria will further develop and strengthen, Yevgeniy Kondratkov stated.

Syrian National Front

LD062138Y Moscow TASS in English 2000 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

["Six Years of Joint Struggle"--TASS headline]

[Text] Damascus, March 6 TASS--March the seventh marks six years since the founding of the Progressive National Front (PNF) of the Syrian Arab Republic. This organisation includes the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party, the Syrian Communist Party and other progressive democratic forces and parties in the country, which united on the common platform of struggle against imperialism, Zionism and (?racism) for consolidating Syria's national independence.

One of the central tasks of the PNF is to build and strengthen the democratic people's system in the republic, to ensure the effectiveness of public and trade-union organizations.

The year 1972 saw the adoption of a PNF charter, which stressed that one of the main goals of Syria's foreign policy is achieveing the closest cooperation and friendship with the socialist countries in the interests of joint struggle against imperialism, for building socialism.

The manifold activities of the front assume special importance at the present stage when Syria has to counter a strong onslaught of imperialism, Zionism and reactionary Arab regimes which are trying to impose on the Arabs capitulatory variants for settling the Middle East conflict.

PLANS FOR MORE ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS REPORTED

LD031430Y Moscow TASS in English 1212 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, March 3 TASS--According to reports from Jerusalem, the department for settlements of the international Zionist organization "The Jewish Agency for Israel" has issued a plan for establishing 49 new settlements in occupied lands by 1992. The plan, specifically, envisages the construction of ten more settlements at the Golan Heights, 15 settlements in the Jordan River Valley and no less than 20 settlements in the area of Rafah, the Gaza sector. According to the report, 76 Israeli settlements were created in the occupied Arab lands from 1967 to 1977.

CYPRIOT PRESIDENT REVIEWS POLICY AT PARTY CONGRESS

LD062130Y Moscow TASS in English 2005 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Nicosia, March 6, TASS--The policy of the Cyprus Government towards a settlement in the country is based on the firm implementation of the U.N. resolutions which contain all conditions for a just solution of the Cyprus problem, stated President of Cyprus S. Kiprianou addressing the 1st congress of the Democratic Party of Cyprus. Any proposal on questions of a settlement, the president pointed out, must envisage the withdrawal of foreign troops from the island and an end to the interference in the republic's internal affairs and a return of refugees to their homes.

S. Kiprianou, on behalf of the Government of Cyprus, thanked the Soviet Union and other socialist countries for their consistent position regarding a Cyprus settlement. He also stressed that the unity of the people is an essential factor on the road to attaining a just solution to the Cyprus question and noted that any attempts at sharpening the situation in the country will be firmly cut short.

Delegates to the congress adopted a declaration expressing full and firm support for President Kiprianou's political course and appealing for strengthening the internal unity of the country.

The congress approved the programme of the Democratic Party and changes in its rules.

GREEK DEPUTIES PROTEST NATO EXPANSION IN GREECE

LD041658Y Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Athens, March 4, TASS--A group of Greek communist deputies has made an interpellation to parliament of the country concerning expansion of the network of NATO's military bases on Greece's territory. The recent time witnesses attempts of enlarging NATO's bases on the island of Crete, Nea Marqui, Elevsis, the interpellation points out.

The Greek Government's collaboration with NATO circles is a cause of serious concern and anxiety of the democratic public of the country. The expansion of the network of NATO's military bases in Greece, the interpellation points out, is directly linked with the participation of Greek Armed Forces in NATO's military exercises, which is contrary to the interests of the Greek people.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

CONTINUING REPORTS ON HORN OF AFRICA CONFLICT

More on Recapture of Jijiga

LD061436Y Moscow TASS in English 1429 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 6, TASS--Ethiopia's National Revolutionary Operations Command has announced the liberation by the armed forces and detachments of people's militia of the strategically important town of Jijiga in Hararge Province in the east of the country. The announcement notes that the bulk of the eastern highlands has been liberated as a result of this major victory in the course of the defensive war conducted by revolutionary Ethiopia. The national flag is again flying over Jijiga. The Somali troops that intruded into Ethiopian territory have suffered big losses in manpower and equipment. The Somali Army is in a disorderly retreat in all directions. The victory at Jijiga is a result of the firm resolve of the revolutionary Ethiopia's working people to uphold the gains of the revolution and the territorial integrity of the state, the announcement stresses. This, however, is not yet the final victory, and Ethiopian working people should be prepared for further struggle against the enemies which have united to strike at Ethiopia. Ethiopia's National Revolutionary Operations Command has called on all servicemen and men of the people's militia on the eastern, northern and southern fronts to intensify struggle against internal and external reaction in order to achieve final victory.

The peace and security of countries in the area of the Horn of Africa can be ensured only on condition of the full and unconditional withdrawal of Somali troops from Ethiopian territory. The people of Ethiopia cannot agree to talks as long as Somali troops remain on its land, stated Berhanu Baye, member of the Standing Committee of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia, head of the council's department for external ties. Imperialist powers and reactionary Arab regimes are going everything to undermine the Ethiopian revolution and the country's territorial integrity, the representative of the Provisional Military Administrative Council stated. As to Ethiopia, it firmly and consistently strives for a settlement of the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa and is preapred, after the withdrawal of Somali troops from its territory, to discuss with Somalia ways of establishing peaceful, goodneighbourly relations and of ensuring lasting peace in the Horn of Africa.

People's Militia Activities

LD061326Y Moscow TASS in English 1246 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 6, TASS--The armed detachments of the Ethiopian working people are carrying on an active struggle against the gangs knocked together by former feudals and underground counter-revolutionary groupings in some Ethiopian provinces. These units, formed at associations of urban inhabitants and peasants--new organs of local power--are also helping the Armed Forces of Ethiopia to repuse the aggression. As reported by the ETHIOPIAN NEWS SERVICE (ENA), over 600 men of the people's militia received arms in recent days after having completed military training in the provinces of Gondar and Sidamo. According to ENA, the people's militia forces have routed a detachment of the Somalian Army near Giarawa in Hararge Province. They have also liquated several counter-revolutionary gangs that operated in Arusi, Shawa and Sidamo provinces.

ZAMBIANS CONTAINING 6 MAR RHODESIAN ARMED AGGRESSION

LD071312Y Moscow TASS in English 1311 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, March 7, TASS--A new act of armed aggression was committed by the Rhodesian military against the independent Republic of Zambia. As a Zambian Government spokesman said today, Rhodesian troops, supported by aircraft, thrust into the republic in the area of Luangwa (former Feira) at 10 a.m. on Monday.

Armed actions on Zambian soil are going on and the Zambian defence forces are containing the enemy, the spokesman said.

RHODESIA'S 'INTERNAL SETTLEMENT' CRITICIZED

Veneer of 'Africanization'

LD061351Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Mar 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[IZVESTIYA political observer V. Kudryavtsev commentary: "Sentence Has Been Passed on Racism in Rhodesia"]

[Text] Recent events surrounding Rhodesia have made perfectly clear the arrangement of political forces both inside and outside that country. The Malta talks between British Foreign Secretary D. Owen and A. Young, the U.S. representative at the United Nations, and J. Nkomo and R. Mugabe, the leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, and the talks in Salisbury between Ian Smith, head of the racist regime, and the three leaders of the African collaborationists--Muzorewa, Sithole, and Chirau--about a so-called "internal settlement" have finally shown the whole world the reluctance and inability of the United States, Britain and their wards in Salisbury to settle the problem. The times when the imperialists were able, through blackmail and deceit, to impose their will on other peoples, and in particular the African peoples, have disappeared into the past for good.

It is not necessary to say what place Rhodesia occupies in the plans of the imperialists, who, under the influence of the economic crisis, and especially the energy crisis, are intensifying their offensive against Africa. Their main stronghold is the racist Republic of South Africa with its barbaric system of apartheid.

Taking into account the new upsurge of the national liberation movement on the African Continent, which has been expressed in particular in the appearance of progressive states--Mozambique and Angola--on the border with the racist south, the United States and Britain have been forced to seek methods of masking racism with an "African signboard."

However, the excessively crude attempt by H. Kissinger, then U.S. secretary of state, jointly with Britain to "lasso" the leaders of the patriotic movement at the Geneva talks and to impose a puppet regime on them ended in failure. [paragraph continues]

The ruling circles of the United States and Britain overestimated the disagreements within the national liberation movement of the people of Zimbabwe and the influence of those in the country prepared to meet the perfidious plans of the imperialists halfway.

At that time London and Washington decided to reverse history and to return Rhodesia to the time when the racists unilaterally declared independence thus placing the main task of solving the Rhodesian question on Britain's shoulders. However, the imperialist diplomats lost sight of the fact that since 1960, and especially since 1965, when the Rhodesian racists declared "independence," the African people have learned well what lurks within the "voluntary" granting of such independence to African colonies. It means elections in accordance with the West European pattern; this has exacerbated the tribal struggle in Africa.

In Africa, Western pluralism has turned into the creation of tribal or even "personal" parties. And it means military agreements which have permitted the West to continue having military bases and even garrisons on foreign territory.

The passing of the Rhodesian problem into the hands of the British also signified an attempt by the imperialists to set off on a well-trodden path--namely, to impose on Rhodesia an "independence" suiting London and Washington, embellished in neocolonialist hues. D. Owen and J. Young persued this aim at the Malta meeting with the leaders of Zimbabwe's Patriotic Front. But what did their plans amount to? British Field Marshal Lord Carver was appointed commissioner for Rhodesia and was to have governed Rhodesia during the transitional period. To put it in simpler terms, the British lord would be the governor on whom the destiny of the people of Zimbabwe would depend. The first thing the United States and Britain were striving for was the cessation of the hostilities the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front is rightly waging against the racist regime. But this is equivalent to capitulation. This would thrust the destiny of the country into the hands of the imperialists. At the same time the racist regime would keep all its organs of repression, only slightly reorganized in line with neocolonialist methods. And the constitution would have been drawn up by Britain and elections held under the supervision of the British commissioner.

Naturally the Patriotic Front could not and would not commit national suicide of this kind. A. Young admitted that at the Malta talks "he and British Foreign Secretary David Owen did not manage to persuade the leaders of the Patriotic Front of Rhodesian partisans to end the war in Rhodesia." As Western newspapers and agencies reported, J. Nkomo and R. Mugabe declared that the guerrilla war would continue. The Patriotic Front, they added, is not opposed to talks but only if they are talks which solve the question of the mechanism of handing power over to the African majority. And although the Patriotic Front believes that the only correct way of liquidating the racist regime is armed struggle, it has never scorned a peaceful settlement which would save the people from many needless sacrifices.

But while the representatives of the United States and Britain were marking time in Malta, the Rhodesian racists together with the collaborationists Muzorewa, Sithole and Chirau, used the meeting with the leaders of the Patriotic Front as a diversionary maneuver and organized talks on an "internal settlement." An understanding was reached in Salisbury which, if its provisions were implemented, would transform Rhodesia into a puppet state with a racist basis.

Indeed, on what was understanding reached in Salisbury? On holding "general elections" with de facto preservation of the Rhodesian state apparatus, police, armed forces and prison system which would merely be considered "apolitical." A parliament is to be elected composed of 100 deputies of which 28 seats will be granted to the white minority. Twenty of them will be elected by white voters and 8 of them by the whole electorate. In a word, the "general elections" are turned into a mockery, and the white minority receives a controlling or blocking number of deputies. Without their votes parliament cannot take any crucial decisions. Moreover, agreement was reached that this situation will continue unchanged for at least 10 years. A bill of rights and a law prohibiting nationalization or confiscation of any property, including land, must be adopted. Pensions will be paid freely, even outside the confines of Rhodesia. Consequently, the whites will retain all their political, economic and material privileges. But the main thing is that the Salisbury document provides for the creation of a government called an Executive Council and consisting of Ian Smith and the three traitors who held talks with him. In the council of ministers, the portfolios would be shared 50-50 between Africans and whites. In a word, it is a question by no means of a handover of power to the majority but of a reorganization of Ian Smith's racist regime merely covered with a veneer of "Africanization." On 16 February, D. Owen declared his full support for the "internal settlement" reached in Salisbury. The United States also declared its support.

The imperialists have put their cards fully on the table. Between Malta and Salisbury there was a precise distribution of functions which amounted to insuring success for Ian Smith in Salisbury through the dragging out of the talks with the Patriotic Front. However, the leaders of the Patriotic Front, relying on the broad support of the people of Zimbabwe, saw through the imperialists' plans from the start. The people of Zimbabwe are continuing the armed struggle, considering it to be the only way leading to the elimination of racism and to the creation of a genuinely independent African Zimbabwe.

Here the Zimbabwe people are receiving the support of all progressive forces both of Africa and of the entire world. Their aspirations have found expression in numerous UN and OAU decisions. The Soviet Union holds principled positions of all-round support for the Zimbabwe people's struggle, proceeding from the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, which defined the liquidation of apartheid and racism as one of the most important international tasks.

Repetition of 1965

LD062238Y Moscow in English to South Africa 1830 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Aleksandr Fedorov commentary]

[Text] Instead of congratulating Salisbury on the occasion of the so-called internal settlement a group of African countries at the United Nations has urged the convening of the Security Council to discuss the situation in Rhodesia. Radio Moscow observer Aleksandr Federov writes the following about the international implications of the deal between Smith, Sithole, Muzorewa and Chirau.

This is actually a repetition of the situation of 1965 when Smith proclaimed his unilateral independence for Rhodesia. Almost 13 years later the act has been supported by African puppets, but that naturally did not change a thing. Small wonder that the international public can't feel different about the idea to reorganize the Smith cabinet, the idea presented as a settlement of the constitutional problem.

The quintessence of this attitude was expressed in the Soviet news agency TASS statement. The Soviet Union demanded that the racist constitution be abolished, all freedom fighters released from prisons and concentration camps and the United Nations declaration on granting independence to colonial countries and nations be applied to Zimbabwe without delay. As the 32d UN General Assembly reiterated this position, it seems proper to examine some of the session's resolutions. The session emphasised that any settlement on the future of southern Rhodesia must be worked out with full participation of the Zimbabwe people and in keeping with their full wishes. But the people of Zimbabwe didn't take part in the deal between Smith and his partners Chirau, Muzorewa and Sithole, who least of all represent the African population. Only the Zimbabwe people who wish real but not fictitious independence have the right to decide what their administration should be and who should man the army. Only they have the right to control the national wealth.

The UN General Assembly addressed the Government of Great Britain, stating that in carrying out its main responsibility as the metropolitan power it should do all it can to prevent the illegal regime from getting under any circumstance any powers or attributes of sovereignty. Having given up its plan which actually differed little from the Smith plan, London thereby empowered the Smith regime to decide on the future of the Zimbabwe people, and this can't be construed other than a challenge to the United Nations. When the resolution on Southern Rhodesia was put to vote on 17th December, 113 UN member countries voted for it. Only a handful of states, among them the USA and Britain, abstained from voting.

While declining the OAU draft resolution that provides for assistance to the OAU in carrying out a blockade against the rebels, the USA and Britain have been helping Smith morally and materially for 13 years. Now after he signed the internal settlement agreement, Salisbury hopes for the same generosity of the West, whose monopolies have been deriving fabulous profits in Rhodesia. But the General Assembly resolutions are applying concrete measures against those directly or indirectly preventing the people of Zimbabwe from winning self-determination, freedom and independence. The 32d General Assembly named oil monopolies, among them Total, Shell, British Petroleum, Mobil and Caltex, who have been supplying Rhodesia with 14 to 18,000 barrels of oil a day through their daughter firms and companies serving as their fronts in South Africa. That was done not only for the sake of stating the universally known facts but also for denouncing cooperation between monopolies and the regime and punishing those responsible for undermining the economic blockade.

The architects of the internal settlement are still relying on the West and South Africa but the world's denunciation has grown so strong that the secretary general of the South African trade unions, James Arthur Grobelaar, has been forced to tell Rhodesian industrialists that South Africa should reconsider its economic policy towards Rhodesia to prevent the world's patience from growing thinner and the national resources from being finally exhausted. At the 32nd UN General Assembly last year 113 countries reaffirmed the legitimacy of the struggle of the Zimbabwe people by all the means at their disposal. As for the Soviet policy it was outlined in the statement made in November 1965. The statement has become the program of action for progressive forces everywhere. Soviet policy calls for true solidarity with the people of Zimbabwe and readiness to cooperate with African countries in giving allround support to Zimbabwe in its just struggle to win true national independence.

SOUTH AFRICA'S PRODUCTION OF ENRICHED URANIUM EXAMINED

LD062302Y Moscow in English to South Africa 1830 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Reports from Pretoria say the South African Government has decided to launch commercial production of enriched uranium. Our observer, Aleksey Nikolayev, writes the following in comment:

In a statement on the government move, the South African minister of labor and mines, Stephanus Botha, said the South African Republic needed uranium only for energy production. There are plenty of reasons however for everyone to take this statement with more than just one grain of salt. We all know that the ruling circles of the republic have never lost sight of the military aspects of developing a national atomic energy industry. The vice chairman of the South African Atomic Energy Authority, Lou Alberts, made this quite plain by saying: Our country [words indistinct] an atom bomb of its own. He was echoed by Finance Minister Horwood, who declared that the South African Republic reserved the right to military uses of nuclear weapons. Some time ago the Washington POST said pictures taken by American space satellites had revealed a South African nuclear test site located in the Kalahari Desert.

In the face of all these facts and under pressure from the public, the Western leaders have been forced to express concern with South Africa's nuclear ambitions. The really puzzling thing about it is why these Western statements come so late. It's the United States and Britain who helped to lay the foundation of the South African nuclear industry, we all know, by building, for example, the nuclear reactor at Pelindaba. Since 1965 the Americans have sold to the South African Republic 10⁴ kilograms of enriched uranium, and West Germany has also helped a lot in this respect, same as France, Israel and other Western countries. Even now, when the racists no longer make a secret of their criminal plans, the Western powers are still cooperating with Pretoria in the nuclear field.

The chairman of the South African Communist Party, Yusuf Dadoo, has warned that by arming its army to the teeth and by developing its nuclear weapons, the Vorster regime is trying to secure domination on the African Continent in the interests of imperialism.

A recent statement by the official Soviet news agency TASS said the Soviet side feels that most urgent and most international efforts are required by all United Nations member states and by the international public to prevent the development of nuclear weapons in South Africa and to prevent the spread of nuclear proliferation. The Soviet Union, said the statement, comes out firmly and consistently for preventing the threat of nuclear war, and it is prepared to cooperate with all countries in promoting this goal.

..., INDIAN OFFICIALS ADDRESS DELHI COOPERATION SESSION

LD070901Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Mar 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[TASS correspondent report: "At the Service in Universal Peace"]

[Text] Delhi--The fourth session of the Soviet-Indian Integovernmental Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation has opened in Delhi.

The delegations of the two countries are headed by the commission's cochairmen--I. V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Indian Minister of External Affairs A. B. Vajpayee. On the agenda's session is the elaboration of a long-term program for bilateral trade exchange and mutually advantageous economic cooperation in the development of important sectors of the Indian economy.

In his introductory speech A. B. Vajpayee stressed that the successful development of bilateral economic relations is determined by the strong friendship and mutal understanding which exists between the peoples of India and the USSR.

Certain circles in the world hoped that the new Indian Government would weaken its relations with the Soviet Union, A. B. Vajpayee continued. But these hopes have not been justified. The Indian Government and Indian people will preserve and strengthen their friendly relations with the Soviet Union.

In reply, I. V. Arkipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, noted that relations of friendship and all-round cooperation have become a fine tradition for the two countries. As L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has noted, "the relations between the Soviet Union and India cemented by the treaty on friendship and cooperation are very rich and varied relations. They include cooperation in numerous spheres of the economy, science, culture and art--cooperation which is ramified, stable and mutually advantageous. They also cover interaction in international affairs which is wholly at the service of universal peace."

The commission is now faced with new tasks in further developing mutually advantageous cooperation between our countries, the head of the Soviet delegation said. It may be said that our economic relations with India are making the transition to a qualitatively new stage.

Economic Protocol Signed

LD061016Y Moscow TASS in English 1004 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, March 6, TASS--The fourth meeting of the Intergovernmental Soviet-Indian Commission on Economic and Scientific and Technical Cooperation ended here today.

As a result of the work done, the participants in the meeting signed a protocol providing for the further development of mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries in iron and steel and non-ferrous metallurgy, heavy machine-building, oil and coal industries, irrigation, communications and transport as well as cooperation in third countries.

Cooperation Session Ends

LD070748Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] The fourth session of the Intergovernmental Soviet-Indian Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation has ended in Delhi.

The head of the Indian delegation, Minister of External Affairs Vajpayee, told our correspondent in Delhi that the work done by the commission was highly productive. During the talks, he said, we came to the conclusion that Soviet-Indian economic cooperation must be expanded in many spheres. We are grateful to the Soviet state, said the minister, for assisting India to achieve self-sufficiency in many industrial sectors, in particular in metallurgy, engineering and petrochemistry. Vajpayee noted that it would be difficult to overestimate what we had achieved thanks to cooperation with the Soviet state.

Reddy Meets Arkhipov

LD061250Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Reddy, president of the Republic of India, received Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who heads the Soviet Government delegation taking part in the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Soviet-Indian Economic, and Scientific and Technological Cooperation Commission. An extensive range of questions pertaining to bilateral relations was discussed during the talk. Comrade Arkhipov was also received by Prime Minister Desai.

INDIAN PREMIER DESAI RECEIVES USSR'S ARKHIPOV

LD052127Y Moscow TASS in English 2056 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, March 5, TASS--Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai today received Deputy Premier of the USSR Ivan Arkhipov, who is here on an official visit. During their talk, matters of Soviet-Indian bilateral relations were touched upon, and some international problems were discussed. The talk passed in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

TALKS HELD BETWEEN JAYEWARDENE, VIETNAM'S PHAM VAN DONG

LD032042Y Moscow TASS in English 1845 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Colombo, March 3, TASS--Talks have begun here between President Junius Jayewardene of the Republic of Sri Lanka and Prime Minister Pham Van Dong of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV]. Pham Van Dong leads his country's delegation which has arrived here on an official visit.

Before the start of the talks the president of the Republic of Sri Lanka welcomed the arrival of the Vietnamese delegation. Prime Minister Pham Van Dong of the SRV handed over to the president of Sri Lanka a message of greetings from President Ton Duc Thang of the SRV and the republic's government.

Sri Lanka-SRV Communique

LD052206Y Moscow TASS in English 2135 GMT 5 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Colombo, March 5, TASS--A joint Sri Lanka-Vietnam communique on the results of the official visit to Sri Lanka by a delegation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV], has been published here.

Sri Lanka and Vietnam, the communique says, reiterated their loyalty to the policy of non-alignment and stressed the need for making new efforts aimed at strengthening and developing this course--continuing the struggle against implerialism and colonialism, for strengthening the independence and sovereignty of the member-countries of the non-alignment movement.

The Sri Lanka Government welcomes the admission of the SRV to U.N. membership as the practical implementation of the Vietnamese people's legitimate right, consistently supported by Sri Lanka, the communique says. The sides stressed the importance of the principles and goals of the U.N. Charter and found it necessary to support all U.N. measures directed at the elimination of colonialism and racism on the globe, at strengthening peace and national independence, essential for shaping out a new international economic order.

Sri Lanka and Vietnam noted that the present situation in Asia creates favourable conditions for developing reciprocally advantageous relations among countries. The sides stressed the need for a peaceful settlement of all controversial questions between states on the principles of non-interference by third countries. The SRV Prime Minister, Pham Van Dong, informed the president of Sri Lanka about the incidents that had taken place between Vietnam and Kampuchea, and the SRV's efforts towards a peaceful settlement of the situation. Sri Lanka and Vietnam noted that the U.N. resolution on turning the Indian Ocean into a peace zone is being translated into life slowly, and called on all the interested parties to undertake new efforts towards the implementation of the resolution. The leaders of the Sri Lanka and Vietnam expressed concern over the situation in South Africa and stressed that the regimes based on the principles of racism and colonialism constitute a threat to universal peace. The sides pledged solidarity with the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa, waging a just struggle for self-determination and independence.

Sri Lanka and Vietnam pointed to the need for a just and lasting solution of the Middle East problem, and that such a solution is impossible without the restoration of the Palestine Arab people's legitimate rights. The sides stressed that the Israeli occupation by Israel of Arab territories completely contradicts U.N. resolutions, and the creation of Israeli settlements on occupied Arab territories is a crying violation of all norms of international law.

The leaders of Sri Lanka and Vietnam noted that the fourth-coming special disarmament session of the U.N. General Assembly offers a favourable opportunity to reach an international agreement on general and complete disarmament.

The sides expressed satisfaction with the development of relations between Vietnam and Sri Lanka, which keep strengthening.

In conclusion the communique points out that the premier of the SRV Government, Pham Van Dong, conveyed an invitation to the president of Sri Lanka, Junius Richard Jayewardene, and the prime minister, Ranasinghe Premadasa, to visit the SRV. The invitations were accepted.

INDOCHINA

'EXTERNAL FORCES' EXACERBATE SRV-CAMBODIA CONFLICT

LD221936Y Moscow TASS in English 1900 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, February 22, TASS--When foreign correspondents visited Vietnam's border areas a short while ago they saw destroyed houses and fields scorched by shelling. However, the attacks of the Kampuchean troops continue. And so does the methodical barbarous shelling of the Vietnamese towns and villages near the border. The blood of civilians is still being shed.

Anyone correspondents might interview in the cities of Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh or the republic's border areas, all citizens in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV), express their indignation over the actions of the Kampuchean authorities. At the same time the Vietnamese feel no hatred or hostility for the Kampuchean people. They express their ardent desire to restore the traditional relations of friendship and solidarity with the Kampuchean people.

The people of Socialist Vietnam also welcome the fact that the world public, statesmen and political figures in many countries as well as influential international organizations support the constructive proposals put forward by the Government of the SRV on December 31 last year and on February 5 this year. These proposals are aimed at settling the border issues between the SRV and Kampuchea by peaceful means as soon as possible through negotiations between the leaders of the two countries at any level.

However, Phnom Penh ignores Vietnam's good will and the opinion of the broad sections of the world public. It is apparent that the bellicose stand of the Kampuchean authorities runs counter to the interests of peace and social progress in Indochina and in Southeast Asia as a whole. It is also clear that such an aggressive stand is backed by those external forces which resent the strengthening of united Socialist Vietnam, its growing prestige on the world scene, and the resolute struggle of the Communist Party of Vietnam for the purity of Marxism-Leninism and genuine proletarian internationalism.

In one of its latest commentaries the "Voice of Vietnam" radio station has observed that the Kampuchean authorities, acting single handed, would not dare to fan hostility against the SRV. The commentary says the world public can see that it is the external forces that help the Kampuchean authorities train and arm tens of divisions. These divisions are equipped with long-range artillery and planes of the types Kampuchea did not possess after her liberation in 1975. The "Voice of Vietnam" underlines that those using Kampuchea as the cat's paws to strike at Vietnam have made the wrong move. They have chosen the wrong ally and the wrong enemy.

Socialist Vietnam is compelled to work for the peaceful settlement of the conflict in a difficult and complex situation. However, the people of good will around the world are confident that this struggle will be crowned with success and that the peoples of Vietnam and Kampuchea linked by traditions of many years in the joint struggle against imperialism, for national independence and social progress as well as for peace in Indochina will by all means succeed in restoring the real relations of fraternal friendship and cooperation. There is no doubt that the designs and plans of those external forces which are in fact to blame for the present tension in Indochina will be frustrated.

JAPAN'S FUKUDA COMMENTS ON DOLLAR-YEN EXCHANGE RATE

ID071042Y Moscow TASS in English 1023 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, March 7, TASS--The continuing dropping of the U.S. dollar's exchange rate will have the most serious consequences for the entire capitalist economy, the prime minister of Japan, Takeo Fukuda, said today during a meeting with leaders of several ministries of the country. The head of the Japanese Government also pointed out that the actual revaluation of the yen may tell negatively on the entire state of the Japanese economy and may aggravate the continuing depression.

K. Miyadzawa, chief of the Economic Planning Board of Japan, sharply criticized the currency and financial policy of the U.S. Government. He stressed that Washington is trying to shift the entire burden of its domestic economic difficulties to other countries.

U.S. IGNORES PROVISIONS OF SECURITY PACT WITH JAPAN

ID061617Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Mar 78 p 5 LD

[I. Latyshev dispatch: "Preparing for Maneuvers"]

[Text] Tokyo--At U.S. military bases in Japan preparations are being made for maneuvers which the Pentagon intends to hold jointly with South Korean troops. Approximately 30,000 U.S. officers and men, including units being transferred to Korea specifically for this purpose from the United States, Hawaii and the Philippines, will participate in these maneuvers--the biggest since the end of military operations on the Korean Peninsula. The purpose of the maneuvers is to improve the combat readiness of U.S. and South Korean Armed Forces in case an "emergency situation" arises on the Korean Peninsula.

As the Japanese press reports, during these maneuvers the U.S. military bases in Japan will fulfill the role of air bridgeheads and transshipment points from which the U.S. forces will carry out landing operations in Korea. A large role is allocated in this connection to U.S. marine units stationed on Okinawa, to combat ships of the 7th Fleet, which is based at the naval port of Yokosuka, and to the naval air detachments at Iwakuni base. The aircraft carrier Midway, in particular, has already left Yokosuka in the direction of the region of the maneuvers.

The increased activity of the U.S. military in Japan and adjacent regions of the Far East seriously alarms the peace-loving Japanese public. Events graphically demonstrate the groundlessness of the Japanese Government's soothing assertions that it is in control of the situation and that U.S. military circles will not undertake without its consent any actions which might drag Japan into military conflicts and combat operations.

The democratic press points out in this connection that even now, during the preparations for the coming maneuvers, the U.S. military command is essentially ignoring that article in the Japanese-U.S. "security treaty" which speaks of the need for "preliminary consultations" between the U.S. military authorities and the Japanese Government on any actions connected with the use of Japanese territory for combat operations. Directing public attention to this, the newspaper AKAHATA--central organ of the Japanese Communist Party--sharply criticizes the stand of the Japanese Government, which maintains, without offering any proof, that the use of Japanese territory for transferring and transporting U.S. troops does not relate to those cases which require "preliminary consultations." [paragraph continues]

"Without transferring and transporting troops, arms and ammunition," the newspaper writes, "there are no combat operations. The stand of the Japanese Government in fact signifies rejection of 'preliminary consultations' in almost all cases of combat operations by U.S. Armed Forces."

Emphasizing the purpose of the present U.S. military preparations on Japanese territory--a purpose hostile to the cause of peace--representatives of Japanese peace organizations resolutely condemn the militarist intrigues of the Pentagon and its accomplices in their statements. "In the name of peace and the security of the inhabitants of Tokyo," reads a statement published by Keima Shibata, general secretary of the Tokyo branch of the All-Japanese Council to Ban Atomic and Hydrogen Weapons, "we must protest against the holding of military maneuvers and the use for these purposes of the Yokota base near the capital. Therefore, we must develop still more resolutely the nationwide struggle to liquidate the U.S. military bases on Japanese territory and to annul the Japanese-U.S. 'security treaty!'"

LOCKHEED SCANDAL SURFACES AGAIN IN JAPAN

LD062217Y Moscow TASS in English 2202 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, March 6, TASS--New facts have been uncovered at the trial of the Lockheed case here, confirming how widespread is corruption among the Japanese ruling circles.

Appearing as a witness, the former head of the secretariat of the Marubeni commercial company, I. Soezima, described in detail how bribes were handed to Japanese officials from the American Lockheed aircraft corporation. On October 30, 1972, I. Soezina received 30 million yen from Lockheed representative in Tokyo J. Clatter to pay for the services of prominent members of the Liberal Democratic Party who "promoted" Lockheed produce on the Japanese market, such as the "Tristar" airbuses. On the same day the witness personally presented a 10 million yen bribe to the former minister of transport H. Sasaki, to the former chairman of the Civil Aviation Committee of the LDP, K. Fukanaga, and to two former deputy ministers of transport. Another ten million yens were shared by the former minister of transport, T. Hasimoto and the former LDP General Secretary S. Nikaido. The witness insists he "forgets" where the other 10 million yen went. However, the procurator's office believes they were received by the former prime minister, K. Tanaka, who is already charged with receiving from Lockheed the tremendous sum of 500 million yen.

Today's testimony by I. Soezima adds new evidence to the case for the prosecution for bribery of a number of prominent Liberal Democrats. However, the government and the ruling LDP, trying to save face, which suffered severely from the Lockheed affairs, are trying to protect the defendants. Japanese public opinion and oppositionary force in Parliament insist on prosecution and severe punishment for all LDP members involved in the affair.

TONGSUN PARK TESTIMONY IN WASHINGTON REPORTED

LD031512Y Moscow TASS in English 1448 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Washington, March 3 TASS--The "hero" of the scandal with pay-offs to U.S. legistors, agent of the South Korean regime Park Tong Sun, who posed for a businessman, began giving testimony behind closed doors before the House Ethics Committee.

His arrival in Washington is pictured in the local press as some "important victory" for the American justice, which will allegedly with the "voluntary aid" of Park find out the truth in connection with the biggest after Watergate political scandal in the United States. The hearings before the committee show however that, according to the press, efforts are made on the Capitol Hill to gloss over the scandalous exposures and whitewash bribe-takers. Park Tong Sun, said for example, that he contributed money only to the election funds of some American legislators and paid dollars from purely friendly feelings to some American legislators expecting nothing in return. At the same time, he energetically denied his links with the South Korean CIA. The press also notes the fact that Park Tong Sun is chary in his answers to congressmen, obviously striving to not let something out. He is trying to live up to the expectations, as in return for "cooperation", Park Tong Sun was promised "indulgence", immunity from prosecution. Earlier, the U.S. judicial authorities charged him on 36 counts, which threaten him with a total of 200 years in prison.

DECLARATION ADOPTED BY ANTIGOVERNMENT GROUP IN ROK

ID261901Y Moscow TASS in English 1636 GMT 26 Feb 78 ID

[Text] Tokyo, February 26, TASS--"South Korea has been turned today into a big concentration camp," says a declaration adopted at an antigovernment meeting in Seoul, attended by more than 300 people. The declaration contains demands to dissolve the National Assembly, work out a new constitution, guarantee freedom of the press, release people imprisoned for their beliefs. The document condemns the domestic and foreign policy of the South Korean authorities.

MPR'S TSEDENBAL PRESENTS AWARDS TO SUSLOV, ANDROPOV

ID221234Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 22 Feb 78 ID

[Text] Tsedenbal, first secretary of the MPRP and chairman of the Presidium of the MPR's People's Great Hural, presented Suslov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in Moscow today with the Order of Sukhe Bator, the highest award of the MPR. Comrade Suslov has been given this award for his outstanding services to the strengthening of general peace and socialism, in developing fraternal relations between the CPSU and the MPR, and in connection with his 75th birthday. The Order of Sukhe Bator was also presented to Andropov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Committee of State Security within the USSR Council of Ministers. It was awarded for his outstanding contribution to the strengthening of the traditional fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between the Mongolian and Soviet peoples.

Tsedenbal warmly congratulated the recipients of the awards and wished them good health and new, great successes in their responsible activity for the benefit of socialism. Comrade Suslov and Andropov expressed their heartfelt thanks to the MPRP Central Committee, the Presidium of the People's Great Hural and the Mongolian Council of Ministers for the lofty awards, and said that they see in them, first and foremost, recognition of the services of the CPSU, whose policy embodies the interests of working people, directed toward the further consolidation of the positions of socialism. Comrades Kirilenko, Kulakov, Ponomarev, Ryabov, Rusakov and other officials attended the award presentation.

U.S. 'NEW APPROACH' TO CARIBBEAN STATES CRITICIZED

LD061621Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[V. Yakubov article: "Behind the Screen of the 'New Approach'"]

[Text] Attention recently has been attracted to the situation taking shape in the Caribbean, where U.S. political activity is growing appreciably. The New York TIMES has written that emphasis is now being placed on Caribbean countries in U.S. Latin American policy.

The United States allocates to this zone an important place in its global political and military-strategic plans. It regards it as a profitable sphere for investing capital, as a market for its goods and as a source of raw materials. U.S. investments here reach $4.5 billion. Two-thirds of U.S. bauxite imports, a considerable quantity of petroleum and other valuable raw materials come from there. Calls can be heard in the United States for the Caribbean to be proclaimed an "American sea" and for the problems of this region to be attached to the U.S. "domestic" affairs category. However, events in this zone are certainly not developing in the way representatives of certain U.S. circles would like them to.

The victory of the Cuban revolution has given rise to profound progressive changes in this region and raised the people's anti-imperialist struggle to a new level. A whole series of young sovereign states has come into existence there in recent years: Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Grenada, Surinam and others which used to be British and Dutch colonial possessions. Many of them have embarked on a path of progressive socioeconomic transformations, of limiting the activities of foreign capital and of strengthening political self-dependence and economic independence. Their active emergence into the international arena has become apparent. Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago have proclaimed themselves nonalined countries. All Caribbean states belong to the Latin American Economic System.

The Caribbean Community and the zonal Common Market, which is a constituent part of it, were set up in 1973. This association embraces almost all the young states in the area, as well as certain colonial territories. The community's aims are to stimulate the independent economic development of the member states and coordinate their foreign policy activity. The Caribbean Community has repeatedly censured the discriminatory 1974 U.S. trade law. It has come out in support of the liberation movement of the peoples of Latin America, Asia and Africa and Panama's sovereign rights over the Canal Zone. A Committee on Development and Cooperation Among the Caribbean Countries was set up in 1975 within the framework of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America on the initiative of Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago. A number of other zonal associations have come into being.

In this situation U.S. imperialist circles have tried by force to change in a direction desirable to themselves the course of events in the Caribbean zone. Several months ago, they tried to destabilize the progressive regimes of young states which have thrown off the colonial yoke. A lies and slander campaign was launched against these countries, and the character of their domestic transformations and foreign relations was deliberately distorted. A real threat of armed intervention arose. At the time the governments of Barbados, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica publicly issued a statement condemning the economic, political and military pressure being put on them by the United States.

The firm stand of the peoples of the Caribbean states and the active support given them by the socialist community, other peace-loving countries and the democratic world public frustrated imperialism's plans.

Then the United States recently proclaimed the doctrine of the so-called "new approach" to countries in the Western Hemisphere. This doctrine, according to its authors, is destined to open an era of good relations and close cooperation between Washington and Latin American countries.

The democratic public in the Western Hemisphere perceives this doctrine as a U.S. attempt to change its tactics and bring to the fore "quiet," veiled methods of expansion. Plans to undermine the liberation movement, to retard the decolonization process and to entangle young states in nets of economic and financial dependence are concealed behind the screen of the "new approach." These plans are also calculated to hinder the development of cooperation among Caribbean countries to disunite them and to harm their relations with friendly states in other parts of the world. Finally, one also cannot fail to see the United States' attempts to more thoroughly squeeze its western competitors.

Issuing from the United States are assurances addressed to the Caribbean states of its readiness to bury the "unpleasant past" in oblivion and to normalize relations. Promises of generous financial and economic "aid" are being made. A broad propaganda ballyhoo has been launched over the "boons" promised by the "new approach."

The "vacuum" theory, according to which the United States is destined by providence to fill the "void" left by the "departure" of Britain and other West European powers from the Caribbean region, has seen the light of day. Visits to this region by U.S. diplomats, businessmen and politicians are following one after another. Hearings in the U.S. Congress, conferences and symposiums are being organized to discuss problems of relations with Caribbean countries. U.S. political commentators point out that the bulk of the broad financial "aid" will come from U.S. monopolies. The intensified inflow of U.S. capital investments has already begun. Use is being made here of the economic difficulties of certain states--difficulties largely caused by the monopolies themselves.

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the IMF and oil and other monopolies are stepping up their activities in the region. Preparations are being made to set up research and propaganda organizations such as the "committee for Caribbean affairs" and the "American-Caribbean institute funds," a Caribbean economic cooperation group and also a multilateral coordinating machinery with the participation of a number of international financial organizations, to "aid" Caribbean countries and territories. The idea is being voiced in the United States of transferring to this coordinating machinery a number of the functions of the Caribbean Community. In addition to this, the idea is being nurtured of using some kind of threads to tie the Caribbean Community to the OAS, although some community members do not even belong to the OAS. There is clearly a desire to subordinate the integration trends in this zone to monopoly interests and to deprive the Caribbean Community of its anti-imperialist nature. Under these conditions the peoples of these countries, who have been the repeated victims of provocations and direct imperialist aggression, maintain high vigilance.

The young Caribbean states are actively joining in the struggle for world peace, security, international cooperation and the broadening of the detente process.

It was precisely under the conditions of the incipient improvement in the international climate that they succeeded in achieving state independence. Detente is creating favorable conditions for their independent development and for the complete disappearance of colonial territories from the political map of the Caribbean zone. The peoples of the Caribbean countries decisively reject the expansionist policy of U.S. monopoly circles. Whatever colors they paint this policy and whatever "new approaches" they proclaim, the peoples will not let themselves be deceived by false promises but will succeed in upholding the sacred right to choose their own path of development.

'IMPERIALIST' PRESSURE CAUSES PROBLEMS AT CAPE HORN

LD031235Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Mar 78 p 4 LD

[Argentine Communist Oscar Arevalo "Letter from Buenos Aires": "Democratic Dialog is Necessary"]

[Excerpts] It has long been considered that the meridian line passing through Cape Horn marks the border between two regions, one under the sovereignty of Argentina on the Atlantic side and the other under the sovereignty of Chile on the Pacific side. This problem could seem purely theoretical and of interest only to narrow specialists. In fact this is not so. There is a smell of both oil and fish, which are present in abundance, in the "problems" of the Beagle Channel and nearby islands. The region also contains aggressive military outposts of U.S. imperialism, which are of continental and international significance. Fanning conflicts, the forces of the U.S. military-industrial complex mean to pit Latin Americans against one another. The most reactionary Chilean and Argentinian circles are also interested in excessively inflating these problems. In Argentina Pinochet-type groups are engaging in saber-rattling and are unstintingly making threats, with the intention of creating an air of apprehension in the country so as to hasten a coup d'etat. Or, at worst, they figure they will block Argentina's progress along the democratic path to a positive solution of national problems.

Pinochet has similar aims. Incapable of halting the obvious aggravation of the crisis of his repressive regime, Pinochet hopes, along with other means, to use chauvinist slogans to distract the attention of the people's masses away from the horrific situation within the country. Military hysteria is one of the weapons in the imperialist arsenal. That is why, today more than any other time, we Latin Americans lay emphasis on unity among the continent's peoples who are opposing the same enemy. We stress in particular the commonality of interests of the peoples of Chile, Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay. Still unsolved problems among our states (such problems do exist and cannot be ignored) must be settled by means of direct bilateral or multilateral talks in the spirit of the UN Charter and the Helsinki accords.

Dangerous border problems and the intensification of economic instability demand that urgent steps be taken to hold the broad and fruitful dialog of which we Argentinian Communists speak. Such a dialog must consolidate the unity of all democratic progressive forces in Argentina, both civilian and military, within the government and outside it, which are vitally interested in putting a stop to the intrigues of Pinochet types both outside and inside the country. Solidarity among Latin American working people is bringing the end of the profascist and fascist regimes in Latin America closer.

BREZHNEV EXPRESSES THANKS FOR AWARD CONGRATULATIONS

LD031624Y Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 3 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 3 TASS--The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev has expressed sincere gratitude in connection with the awarding of the Order of Victory to him. He writes:

"In connection with my awarding with the Order of Victory I have received from party organizations, communists, from many Soviet people and also from abroad numerous letters and telegrams with warm and heartfelt congratulations. Being unable to reply to these letters and telegrams individually, I would like to express through the newspaper PRAVDA sincere gratitude to all those who expressed their good wishes to me these days.

Feelings of pride for Soviet people are evoked by the thoughts voiced in their letters. Recalling the victorious May of 1945, they write with a profound feeling of personal involvement about the party's successful efforts directed at consolidating the country's defences, at asserting lasting and inviolable peace in the world. They display a real civic concern for the utmost strengthening of the socialist homeland, a concern backed up by deeds.

I was deeply moved by the messages from veterans of the Civil War and the Great Patriotic War, by the congratulations from comrades-in-arms with whom I passed through the long and infinitely difficult war years.

I express my most heartfelt gratitude to the leaders of the fraternal socialist states, of communists and the workers' parties, to the leaders of emergent states who responded with exceptional warmth to this big event in my life.

I am deeply grateful to the politicians, public figures, organizations and citizens of foreign countries for their high evaluation of my contribution to the improvement of the international atmosphere and development of the process of detente. This appraisal I refer entirely to the just and honest policy of our party and the Soviet state which has always been and will further be subordinated to the protection of the interests of peace and socialism.

This vigorous approval of the party's multifaceted activities and the wishes of new successes in work addressed to me I receive with a sense of high responsibility as a sort of mandate for the future. I want to confirm once again that I will further devote all my energy to the further triumph of the great communist ideals, to the cause of peace in the whole world."

BAYBAKOV, MASHEROV ATTEND BELORUSSIAN AWARD CEREMONY

LD061821Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] A republican meeting of the party, administrative and trade union aktiv, together with representatives of labor collectives in Minsk today was devoted to the presentation of a Challenge Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee, to the Belorussian SSR.

Amid prolonged applause, the Challenge Red Banner was presented to representatives of the republic by Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan.

Masherov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, expressed cordial gratitude to the Leninist CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee and Comrade Brezhnev personally for the high appraisal of the results achieved by the republic's working class, the collective farm peasantry and intelligentsia last year.

This award, he emphasized, is recognition of the republic's labor contribution to implementing the historical decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

A delegation from the Lithuanian SSR attended the aktiv meeting. An agreement was signed on socialist competition between the working people of both republics.

BRIEFS

UKRAINE SPORTS, OLYMPIC MEETING--A republic aktiv conference opened in Kiev on 2 March to examine problems concerning the further development of physical culture and sports in light of the 25th CPSU Congress decisions and preparations for the 1980 Olympic games in Moscow. Sologub, Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Trade Union Council chairman, opened the conference. Malanchuk, Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo candidate member and secretary, delivered a report. Participating in the conference are Gramov, CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Department deputy chief; Shevchenko, Supreme Soviet Presidium first deputy chairman; Semichastnyy, Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman; Yelchenko, Ukrainian CP Central Committee Agitprop Department chief; Korniyenko, Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee First Secretary; and prominent trainers and atheletes from the republic. [Kiev Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 2 Mar 78 AU]

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

RADIO REPORTS ON AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 4-5 MAR

LD060630 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1900 GMT on 4 March reports on the preparations for spring sowing in the Ukraine. In the southern part of the republic, where conditions permit, the mineral dressing of winter crops is in progress. This has been carried out on 500,000 hectares in the Crimea, and a second dressing has been started on some farms. The radio also notes on 4 March that the Ukrainian Scientific Research Institute for Plantbreeding, Selection and Genetics has delivered seeds to farms in the RSFSR. The last shipment of Kharkovskaya 46 seeds has been dispatched; this strain will be planted on large areas in 11 oblasts along the Volga and in the Non-Chernozem Zone.

At 1600 GMT on 5 March, Moscow Radio quotes a report by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Azerbaijan SSR to the effect that the condition of winter crops on all 580,000 hectares there is good. Flooding for irrigation has begun in the republic. The radio also reports that the first spring thaw has come in the Don area. Farms in Roskovskaya Oblast are completing preparations for sowing.

PRIORITY TO BE GIVEN TO AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES THIS SPRING

LD061141Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report: "In the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers have adopted a resolution "On Additional Measures for Preparing and Performing the Spring Fieldwork in 1978."

With a view to insuring the timely and high-quality performance of spring fieldwork in 1978, the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers have instructed the union republic Communist Party Central Committees and Councils of Ministers; the USSR Ministry of Agriculture; the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources; the Soyuzselkhoztekhnika; the USSR Ministry of Procurements; the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry; the CPSU kraykoms, obkoms and raykoms; the Councils of Ministers of the autonomous republics; the executive committees of the local soviets; the local agricultural organs; and kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders, to pay special attention to proper preparation of seed and the machinery and tractor pool; the timely delivery of fuel and lubricants to the farms; the highly efficient use of all irrigated and drained land; the timely cleaning of ditches; the repair of land reclamation systems and irrigation equipment; the staffing of farms with the necessary tractor driver and machine operator cadres, motor vehicle drivers, and sprinkling machine operators, as well as improving their qualifications. Socialist competition must be widely launched among agricultural machine operators to attain the greatest labor productivity and maximum use of the machinery's technical potential. During spring fieldwork, public catering, cultural and consumer services and medical services must be properly organized on kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other farms.

The Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine-Building; the Ministry of Machine-Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production; the Ministry of the Automotive Industry, and other ministries and departments are to insure ahead-of-schedule delivery of spare parts, agricultural machinery and tractor trailers in the established range to agriculture in the first 6 months of 1978 from stocks earmarked for 1978. [paragraph continues]

Extra spare parts, certain materials, equipment, machinery and chemical plant protection agents are being allocated for the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. The Soyuzselkhoztekhnika, in collaboration with the USSR Ministry of Agriculture and the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry, has been assigned the task of distributing them among consumers.

The USSR Ministry of Agriculture and the Soyuzselkhoztekhnika, in agreement with the Ministry of Railroads and the Union republic Councils of Ministers, has been allowed in February through May 1978, depending on the conditions which take shape, to change the deadlines for delivering tractors, agricultural machinery, spare parts and mineral fertilizers to agriculture financed by funds earmarked for the first 6 months of 1978.

The USSR Gossnab has been assigned the task of allocating metal and other material and technical resources essential for fulfilling the established targets for the additional production of spare parts and other articles.

The union republic Councils of Ministers; Soyuzelkhoztekhnika; USSR Ministry of Agriculture; USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources; USSR Ministry of the Food Industry and their local organs, have been asked to take immediate steps to deliver fuel and lubricants to the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. This is to be done with a view to creating, before the start of spring fieldwork, stocks of petroleum products in quantities that will insure the uninterrupted work of the machinery and tractor pool in the spring fieldwork period, eliminate existing shortcomings in the expenditure of fuel and lubricants, and insure their effective utilization and storage.

The USSR Gossnab; USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy; USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy; USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry; the Ministry of the Automotive Industry; the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine-Building; the Ministry of Machine-Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production; the Ministry of Construction, Road and Municipal Machine-Building; the Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool-Building Industry; the USSR Ministry of the Timber and Wood-Processing Industry; the Ministry of Machine-Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances; the Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine-Building, and other ministries and departments, have been asked to insure the delivery of rolled ferrous and nonferrous metal pipes, materials, components and articles making up complete sets of equipment. This will be done on a preferential basis using the funds earmarked, and deliveries will be sent to enterprises producing tractors, motor vehicles, trailers, excavating machines, agricultural machinery, spare parts and bearings for motor vehicles, tractors, excavating machines and agricultural machinery, including output produced under supplementary targets.

The union republic Councils of Ministers have been permitted to recruit tractor drivers, machine operators and other mechanical experts from industrial, transportation and other enterprises, and from institutions and organizations for the spring fieldwork in the kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

The 1977 procedure for paying for the labor of tractor drivers, machine operators and other mechanical export sent for spring fieldwork is retained, as is the procedure for awarding bonuses to workers and engineering and technical workers of enterprises that fulfill the plan for producing spare parts for motor vehicles, tractors, agricultural and excavating machines in the entire established range.

The USSR State Bank is permitted to grant short-term credit up to 1 November 1978 to certain kolkhozes and sovhkozes (regardless of their departmental subordination), Selkhoztekhnika associations and other agricultural enterprises experiencing financial difficulties. This credit will be used for paying the cost of spare parts and materials necessary for repair needs; for repair and technical servicing work on motor vehicle and tractor pools and trucks; and for paying the cost of petroleum products and other needs, regardless of whether or not payments on debts to the USSR State Bank are overdue.

The Ministry of Railroads is instructed to insure in 1978 the immediate delivery of freightcars, tank-cars and containers to carry loads of seed, motor vehicles, tractors, trailers, agricultural machinery, spare parts, petroleum products, ferrous and nonferrous rolled metal products, mineral fertilizers and other material and technical items needed for spring field and land reclamation work, and also to establish control of traffic on routes bearing the aforementioned loads.

The USSR State Committee for Material and Technical Supply, Councils of Ministers o the union republics and USSR ministries and departments are instructed to insure in 1978 the sale of materials, spare parts, transportation facilities, instruments, machine tools and similar above-norm equipment needed for agriculture and not being used at enterprises or on construction sites, to kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other agricultural enterprises and organizations.

The Councils of Ministers of the union and autonomous republics and also krayispolkoms, oblispolkoms, Soyuzselkhoztekhnika and the USSR Ministry of Agriculture are ordered to take immediate steps to speed up the dispatch from railroad stations of all loads which arrive addressed to Selkhoztekhnika associations, kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other agricultural enterprises and organizations.

The Councils of Ministers of the union republics; the USSR Ministry of Agriculture; the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, and Soyuzselkhoztekhnika are to insure strict economy of material resources allocated in 1978 for agriculture and water resources.

The Communist Party Central Committees of the union republics, party kraykoms, obkoms and raykoms and party organizations at industrial organizations are ordered to help kolkhozes and sovkhozes under the patronage system with equipment repair work.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Concil of Ministers instructed USSR ministries and departments and the Councils of Ministers of the union republics to exercise special control over fulfilling tasks in producing and delivering spare parts, tractors, motor vehicles, tractor trailers, agricultural machinery, fuel and other material and technical facilities to agriculture and water resources.

The USSR People's Control Committee is instructed to exercise control over the fulfillment of tasks set out by this resolution.

The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution sets out other measures aimed at insuring the successful implementation of spring fieldwork.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers expressed confidence that party and soviet organs; agricultural, trade union and Komsomol organizations; kolkhozes and sovkhozes; industrial enterprises and transportation organizations, proceeding on the basis of the tasks set in the letter from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee on mounting socialist competition to fulfill and overfulfill the 1978 plan and intensify the struggle to raise production efficiency and work quality, will take all steps to insure the implementation of spring fieldwork to high agrotechnical standards.

AGRICULTURE MINISTRY ON SALES OF MEAT, MILK TO STATE

LD071230Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Summary] The USSR Agriculture Ministry reckons that livestock breeders are continuing to work at the shock rate begun at the start of the year. Data about purchases of products coming in from farms bear witness to this: in the January-February period, 8 percent more meat and 2 percent more milk were sold to the state than in the same period last year. Uzbekistan occupies first place as far as these indices are concerned.

Procurement of livestock breeding products in the major union republics--the RSFSR, Kazakhstan and the Ukraine--is successful. Among those that lag behind are Moldavia, Kirghizia and Georgia. Livestock breeders are sparing no efforts to compensate for the shortage of fodders by economic, rational use, enriching them with highly nutritious mineral additives. It is this that made it possible to increase the state purchases of meat, milk and other products. The number of cows, sheep and other types of cattle and poultry grows constantly, both at the sovkhozes and kolkhozes and those belonging to the population.

ACADEMICIAN ON HIGHLANDS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

LD070702Y Moscow TASS in English 1500 GMT 6 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Baku, March 6, TASS--The development of agriculture in highland regions, that occupy a third of the USSR's territory, is an important reserve of increasing production of farming and livestock-raising products, a TASS correspondent has been told by Tsotne Mirtskhulava, academician of the all-union agricultural academy, named after V.I. Lenin.

The prominent scientist emphasized that the development of irrigation in highland conditions, expansion of boundaries of irrigated farming at foothill and mountain areas, including about 70 million hectares of arable land, pastures, meadows, orchards, and also soil protection from erosion are one of the important aims of the CPSU's agrarian policy.

In northern Caucasus, Mirtskhulava said, the lands provided with water account for a fifth of the agricultural produce, though occupying only 8 percent of the arable land. Extensive operations for the development of agriculture in mountain and foothill areas are under way in Central Asia, where irrigation systems are being established, relying on new methods of irrigation technique and measures to prevent soil erosion.

(?10) percent more money is being allocated in Azerbaijan (Transcaucasus) in the current five-year period for land reclamation operations than in the previous five-year period. A major part of the total allocations will be used for highland irrigation. Allocations for the purpose are on the rise in other areas of the country.

BREZHNEV, CSSR LEADER SEND MESSAGE TO COSMONAUTS

LD061653Y Moscow PRAVADA in Russian 5 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[Text] To the international crew of the Salyut-6-Soyuz-27--Soyuz-28 orbiting scientific research complex, Cosmonauts Romanenko, Grechko, Gubarev and Remek:

Dear Comrades:

We cordially greet you, the friendly international crew of the orbiting space laboratory.

To you has fallen the great honor of participating in the opening of a new stage in the joint investigation and utilization of space, which the socialist countries participating in the Intercosmos program are carrying out for peaceful purposes. We are confident that you will justify this high honor and make a weighty contribution to implementing the unified work program of cosmonatus of the socialist community countries in the orbiting scientific research complex.

The creation in earth orbit of a scientific research complex consisting of an orbiting station and two spacecraft and the work of Soviet and international crews on board opens new prospects in further space exploration.

International cooperation in space is further proof of the fraternal relations among the socialist countries and further evidence of the strength of socialist internationalism.

We wish you, dear comrades Romanenko, Grechko, Gubarev and Remek, successful fulfillment of the complex flight program and a safe return to your native land.

[signed] L. Brezhnev, G. Husak.

RADIO REPORTS ON COSMONAUTS' DAILY SCHEDULE

LD070726Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 7 Mar 78 LD

[Text] The international crew of the orbiting research complex Salyut 6-Soyuz-Soyuz 28 has approximately the same daily schedule as the main crew of the station has had during the entire flight, waking at 0800 and retiring at 2300.

Aleksey Gubarev and Vladimir Remek are now beginning their fifth working day. The program includes medico-biological experiments, technical servicing of the station and physical exercises. Today's heat exchange experiment is interesting. It is to be conducted by comrades Romanenko, Grechko, Gubarev and Remek to study the heat output of the human being in conditions of weightlessness. In the absence of gravity the processes of heat exchange alter their characteristics.

On board the complex yesterday the joint Soviet-Czechoslovak technological experiment, Morava, was completed. Two small ampules containing substances whose crystallization occur in weightlessness await researchers on earth. The flight of the orbiting complex is proceeding normally. All the cosmonauts feel well.

PRAVDA ON TRAINING OF EAST EUROPEANS AS COSMONAUTS

LD040610Y Moscow TASS in English 0602 GMT 4 Mar 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 4, TASS--The first group of cosmonauts--citizens of the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia--have undergone training in the Stellar Township. In the course of the next few years, representatives of all the countries participating in the Intercosmos programme will be able to work on board Soviet spaceships and stations, the newspaper PRAVDA writes today. The article notes that for more than ten years now, scientists and specialists of the socialist countries have been working on many problems of joint peaceful uses of outer space. On April 14, 1965, the Soviet Government addressed the heads of government of the socialist countries with a proposal to study possibilities for cooperation in outer space. The Soviet Union proposed to share its know-how and technology for joint work with these countries. This proposal was welcomed, and in November 1968 and in April 1967 representatives of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia carefully discussed the possibilities of each country in outer space exploration, forms and trends of cooperation. This marked, as a matter of fact, the birth of the Interkosmos programme, although it was named so in 1970 at the meeting of heads of national coordination bodies in Wroclaw (Poland).

The contribution of the countries of the socialist community to outer space exploration is diverse and considerable. Tens of scientific instruments and complexes were designed and then installed in 17 satellites of the Interkosmos series, high altitude rockets and on board the Soviet manned spaceships, the newspaper writes.

ALEKSANDROV ADDRESSES ACADEMY OF SCIENCES SESSION

LD070821Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Mar 78 p 2 LD

[Excerpt] TASS--Methods of raising the efficiency and quality of basic and applied research, accelerating the rate of scientific and technical progress and strengthening the ties between science and practice and the nationwide struggle for the ahead-of schedule fulfillment of 5-year plan targets are at the center of the attention of the USSR Academy of Sciences annual general meeting. It opened 1 March in the Moscow scientists' institute.

The meeting was opened by Academician A.P. Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Last year, he said, was the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, and this gave rise to the high creative enthusiasm with which Soviet scientists worked. The jubilee year of the land of the soviets was also the year of the adoption of the new USSR Constitution, and our scientists--lawyers, historians and representatives of all specialities--participated actively in the preparation and discussion of the fundamental law of the Soviet state.

On the threshold of the Great October jubilee historians and other scientists in the social sciences sphere prepared and published a large number of works illuminating various periods in the development of the world's first state of workers and peasants and analyzing the achievements in our country's socioeconomic and political development. Several international and all-union conferences were devoted to crystallizing the world-historic experience of October, and aroused a broad public response.

Fruitful work was done by economists, whose work was carried out in two main directions: The more detailed elaboration of economic and mathematical models and methodological bases, and the improvement of the administrative structure in various spheres of the national economy. Great essential significance is attached to research into the process of socialist economic integration, which has become the main tendency in the development of the socialist countries. Several practical recommendations have been proposed to scientists which will further the improvement of this process.

The work of the large group of scientists creating a multivolume world history was successfully completed.

Turning to an analysis of the development of the natural sciences, the president noted the important successes achieved in biology, biochemistry, and molecular biology. The development of mathematics, including computers, was marked by major achievements, which furthered, in particular, the successful implementation of the Soviet space program. At the same time, Academician A.P. Aleksandrov stressed the need to intensify the development of computer technology.

Significant progress has recently been achieved in plasma physics and controlled thermonuclear fusion. A new and promising field is research in compressing the thermonuclear target with a relativistic electron beam. Important results were obtained in solid state physics, which is of great practical significance for our national economy. Notable advances were made in the physics of magnetic phenomena and their technical applications.

The president stressed that one of the main directions of the academy's activity is the work carried out in accordance with the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress on the comprehensive development of various sectors of the USSR national economy. Major work was carried out, for instance, on problems of the comprehensive development of our country's fuel and energy base. For the successful development of work in this direction, the speaker noted, it is necessary to strengthen businesslike cooperation and collaboration with ministries and departments.

The president also dwelt on several important pieces of work carried out in laboratories and faculties of institutes in the USSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education system. The scientific potential of higher schools has grown considerably, and this is exerting an increasing influence on accelerating the rate of scientific and technical progress.

A report on the activity of the USSR Academy of Sciences in 1977 was delivered by G.K. Skryabin, chief scientific secretary of the USSR Academy of Sciences Presidium and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Academy Appoints Officials

LD070823Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Mar 78 p 3 LD

[Excerpts] TASS--The annual general meeting of the USSR Academy of Sciences finished its work on 2 March. Organizational questions were discussed at the general meeting. Academician Ye.P. Velikhov was elected vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Academician N.A. Shilo was elected chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences Far Eastern Scientific Center.

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